

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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FISHERY NEGOTIATIONS WITH USSR SUSPENDED

OW010301 Tokyo KYODO in English 0252 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Moscow, Aug. 31 KYODO -- Japan and the Soviet Union Friday suspended negotiations, for conclusion of a new fishery cooperation agreement under way here since August 20, the Japanese delegation said. It was agreed that negotiations should resume as soon as possible. Delegation sources said, however, chances are now slim for the signature of a new agreement during a visit to Moscow by Shinjiro Yamamura, Japanese minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, starting September 16.

The Japan-Soviet fishery cooperation agreement, which came into force in April 1978, was originally valid until the end of 1982, and was extended twice until the end of 1984. However, in June this year, the Soviets notified the Japan of the termination of the agreement, making it necessary for the two countries to conclude a new accord.

According to the Japanese delegation, the regulation of offshore salmon catches, particularly how to deal with the right of the country of origin of salmon, was the main subject for discussion in the latest round of negotiations. The negotiators finished consultations on revision of the existing fishery cooperation agreement, September 25 and started drafting a new agreement Monday.

Japanese officials said, in relation to salmon catches in the open sea under Article 66 of the Law of the Sea, the interpretations of the article would be woven into the new fishery cooperation agreement. The bilateral agreement governs the promotion of bilateral agreement governs the promotion of bilateral fishery cooperation, conservation and reasonable utilization of fishery resources outside the 200 mile zone and the bilateral fishery committee. However, under the accord, the determination of conditions for Japanese offshore salmon catches has been the main job.

The delegation said the two sides have made a much deeper understanding of each other's position as a result of the latest round of discussions. Officials said the Japanese hoped to reach a final agreement with the Soviets in the next round of talks. The time and venue for the next round of negotiations are to be determined through diplomatic channels.

Agreement Unlikely 'Soon'

OW031207 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Sept. 3 KYODO -- A ranking official of the Fisheries Agency said Monday he sees little possibility of Japan and the Soviet Union settling the problem of concluding a new fishery cooperation agreement before Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Shinjiro Yamamura's departure for Moscow September 16.

Keiichi Nakajima, director of the Oceanic Fisheries Department, told newsmen there is still a discrepancy of views between the two countries although the latest round of talks, held in Moscow, served to deepen mutual understanding. Nakajima represented Japan at the talks, which were suspended last Friday. The present twice-extended fishery agreement is to expire at the end of this year.

Yamamura will visit the Soviet Union for a week at the invitation of Soviet Fisheries Minister Vladimir Kamentsev. There have been high hopes here that he will be able to sign the new fishery accord during his visit.

U.S. SUBMARINE'S ARRIVAL AT YOKOSUKA PROTESTED

OW031311 Tokyo KYODO in English 1043 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Excerpts] Yokosuka, Kanagawa Pref., Sept. 3 KYODO -- The U.S. Navy's nuclear-powered attack submarine Cavalla capable of carrying Tomahawk cruise missiles entered the U.S. naval base here Monday afternoon.

Cavalla's visit to Yokosuka is the 15th made by nuclear submarines since the start of this year. Local citizens, leftists and members of an antinuclear council visited the U.S. Yokosuka naval base and protested Cavalla's port visit.

NAKASONE SPEAKS ON POLICY TOWARD NORTH KOREA

OW030849 Tokyo KYODO in English 0841 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Fukuoka, Sept. 3 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Monday Japan's policy toward North Korea will remain unchanged even after South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan this week unless there is a "major change" in the international situation. Speaking to reporters, Nakasone said the Korean problem should be settled basically through talks between South and North Korean authorities themselves. But he added Japan is ready to help create the environment conducive to eventual reunification of the divided Korea.

Nakasone said Japan's sanctions against North Korea concerning its alleged terrorist bombing in Rangoon last October will remain in force. The bomb blast killed 17 South Koreans, including four Cabinet members of the Chon government. Japan's policy toward the communist government in Pyongyang will remain unchanged if there is no "major change" in the international situation, said Nakasone.

North Korea is the only country Japan does not have diplomatic relations [with], but the Pyongyang government recently gave signs of its readiness to improve relations with Japan. Japanese Government officials predicted moves toward reducing tensions on the Korean peninsula after Chon's three-day state visit to Tokyo, beginning Thursday.

During Monday's news conference, Nakasone said he will study Japan's North Korean policy after carefully listening to what President Chon will have to say concerning the Korean situation during their summit meetings. Nakasone visited here for election campaigning for the incumbent mayor backed by his ruling Liberal-Democratic Party.

GOVERNMENT LIMITING ENTRY OF DPRK SHIPS

OW020721 Tokyo KYODO in English 0702 GMT 2 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 2 KYODO -- Japan's strict controls on port calls by North Korean ships prior to the visit of South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan has disrupted travel between the two countries, sources close to North Korea said Sunday. They said some 1,000 pro-North Korean residents in Japan have been forced to put off visits to their homeland and about 500 people are stranded in North Korea.

North Korea, retaliating against the security measures, has drastically cut back on the number of ships visiting Japan. Sources said North Korean ships usually call at Japanese ports 8 to 10 times a month. But since early August, only two vessels have called at Kobe, Yokohama and Iura, in Aichi prefecture.

As a result, an Osaka-based children's chorus visiting North Korea was forced to return home by air via Beijing.

One of the two North Korean ships that visited Japan was not allowed to dock and the other was not permitted to make repairs, the sources said. An agency for North Korean shipping lines said cargo shipments between the two countries had not been affected since cargo had been shifted to Japanese vessels.

SPORTS MEET PLANNED WITH DPRK, ROK, PRC

OW311121 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 31 Aug 84

[By Shiro Yoneyama, KYODO staff writer]

[Excerpt] Nagoya, Aug. 31 KYODO -- Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe Friday expressed his full support for four-way sports diplomacy involving Nagoya, Seoul, Pyongyang and Nanjing. "It's a very good proposal," he commented when asked about the Nagoya plan to host a sports meet among athletes from the Japanese, South Korean, North Korean and Chinese cities. It was timely because of the continuing tension of the Korean peninsula, Abe told a news conference. The foreign minister said he has a strong interest in the proposal and his ministry is prepared to assist this city in realizing quadrilateral sports exchanges.

NAKASONE SEEKS 'MATURE, STABLE' TIES WITH ROK

OW010937 Tokyo KYODO in English 0838 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Shizuoka, Sep. 1 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said here Saturday he hopes South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan's coming visit to Japan will open "matured, stable" relations between Tokyo and Seoul. Noting that there was an "unhappy" period in history Nakasone said he will try to establish "more friendly, positive" ties between the two countries, reminding of the historical fact.

Chon is scheduled to visit Tokyo September 6-8, the first official trip to Japan by a South Korean head of state.

Bilateral political, economic and cultural problems as well as the regional situation, in particular, peace and stability in Asia, will be discussed during scheduled two rounds of summit talks, Nakasone said. He said Chon's visit is the most major historical event since the trip to Japan by the Korean Pandit, commonly known as Dr. Wani, who brought Chinese characters during the rein of Emperor Ojin in the third to fourth century.

Nakasone visited this central Japan city to take a look at an earthquake drill held to mark the 61st anniversary of the 1923 great Kanto earthquake which destroyed Tokyo and its vicinity.

ECONOMIC TALKS SEEN AS IMPORTANT IN CHON VISIT

OW040557 Tokyo KYODO in English 0506 GMT 4 Sep 84

[By Shiro Yoneyama, KYODO staff writer]

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 4 KYODO -- Amid hoopla surrounding President Chon Tu-hwan's historic visit to Tokyo, Japanese and South Korean trade ministers will discuss trade and other economic problems which have nagged the two countries over the years.

Government officials of both countries uniformly feel the need to resolve the trade problem aggravated in recent years by South Korea's chronic trade deficit, but they are sharply divided over ways to smooth it over.

Meeting Japanese Ambassador Toshikazu Maeda last week, President Chon expressed hope Tokyo would show its "good faith" by rectifying the trade imbalance and promoting technological transfers to his country.

South Korea, "the frontrunner of developing nations" as Chon calls his country, is demanding many more concessions from Japan, the world's "second strongest" economic power, in trade and related fields than what Japanese trade officials call "most favorable" tariff treatment Japan accords to other countries. Because, South Koreans argue, Tokyo owes them for security and stability in the Far East stemming from their deterrent power.

Japanese trade negotiators counter that their government, as the only full-fledged industrialized country in Asia, has vigorously opened its market to the fullest extent possible and contributed greatly to the economic growth of Asia into one of the world's most economically dynamic regions. But South Korea does not buy the Japanese argument -- at least in public -- and instead is joining Southeast Asian countries in criticizing Japan for opening up its market for the benefit of only the United States and Western Europe.

Asserting that the trade issue cannot be solved in a short period of time, Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe said in a recent interview that South Korea should make further efforts to export to rectify the trade imbalance which totaled 2.8 billion dollars in Japan's favor out of two-way trade of 9.6 billion dollars in 1983, up from 1.9 billion dollars a year before.

South Korean officials, Japanese officials charge, like to point to an accumulative trade deficit of 26.8 billion dollars between 1965 and 1983 as a clear testimony to one-sided trade relationship. The South Korean Government lists the balancing of the international balance of payments as one of the major objectives of its policy over the next three years along with stepped up technical innovation and industrial efficiency and price stabilization.

During working-level consultations last week, South Korean negotiators called on Japan to abolish or sharply reduce general and preferential tariffs of some 60 agricultural and other products such as matsutake mushrooms, textiles and leather goods. These issues will be taken up in separate meetings Friday between International Trade and Industry Ministers Hikosaburo Okonogi and Kim Chin-ho and between Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita and Deputy Prime Minister Sin Pyong-hyon.

The two countries are holding trade talks after successfully defusing the politically explosive issue in Japan of shipment of 150,000 tons of rice to Japan to offset a possible rice shortage here as repayment in kind of part of the rice Japan provided South Korea in 1969-70. South Korea, however, has to wait for the time being for the Japanese Government to comply to a certain extent with its requests for further market-opening measures, Japanese officials cautioned.

"We are not deliberately antagonizing South Korea," Hikoharu Kure of the Japanese Trade Ministry's International Trade Policy Bureau explained regarding Japan's refusal so far to trim tariffs on agricultural produce. "It's purely due to domestic consideration" in view of stiff opposition from Japanese farmers, Kure said.

Director of the bureau's North Asia Division, Kure contended: "Japanese exports haven't caused any damage to South Korea." The South Koreans are importing machinery and other goods from Japan and eventually utilize them to produce products for exports. "They may probably owe us a word of appreciation or two for exporting products. Their criticism (of Japan's exports) is out for focus," he said in an interview.

Japan's direct investment in South Korea between 1962 and 1983 reached some 843 million dollars, compared to 471 million dollars over the same period by the United States. Japanese Government officials and business leaders believe South Korea can lure further Japanese investment if it eases dividend and other restrictions, including local content provisions.

"The problem with foreign investment in South Korea is that the government's foreign investment policy is inconsistent," a Foreign Ministry official commented. He said Seoul's tax system changes and mandatory export regulations have deterred potential foreign investors from moving into that country.

South Korea, like Japan, is heavily dependent on imported crude oil to keep its economic locomotive going and its industry is **structurally** very fragile. It has spurned continuous suggestions from Japan and other trading partners that it join the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to become a more responsible trading nation.

A senior MITI official pointed out that South Korean officials -- particularly those at the Trade and Industry Ministry -- are now "realistic" about trade problems with Japan and willing to listen to their Japanese counterparts. A case in point is a series of measures to promote industrial and scientific technology cooperation, including a soon-to-be-launched program by MITI to accept South Korean trainees and a science and technology pact.

Foreign Minister Abe has stressed that scientific and technological cooperation between the two neighboring countries will be carried out under the initiative of private enterprises. The Japanese Government, he said, can only encourage Japanese firms to assist their South Korean counterparts.

Although some Japanese business leaders are worried about the bommerang effect of technological transfer to South Korean concerns, former South Korean Finance Minister Yun Yi-song dismissed such fears and called for division of labor between the two countries in production of industrial goods. He suggested during a cooperation committee meeting last month that Japan concentrate on production of sophisticated technological and precisionproducts while South Korea mass-produce popular goods.

Government sources said a high-powered Japanese import promotion mission will visit South Korea October 5-11, not only to purchase Korean products, but also to explore ways to revitalize bilateral economic relations.

MITI's Kure said there are vast possibilities for South Korean exporters to sell their products in Japan if they are more effective in sales tactics here. Unshakable trade and economic relations between Japan and South Korea may not develop so soon, but the great potentials are there for the two Asian neighbors to recognize easily.

MORE GROUPS EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO CHON VISIT

Police Garage Firebombed

OW010307 Tokyo KYODO in English 0256 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 1 KYODO -- A radical leftist group opposed to South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan Saturday claimed responsibility for setting off a fire bomb at a police car park in Tokyo Friday night. The fire, which was put out within minutes by police officers on duty, caused no casualties or damage, police said. In a telephone call to KYODO NEWS SERVICE, a man who identified himself as a member of "Kakurokyo" said the radical group launched the attack "to stop" Chon's visit next week.

Police said the fire, apparently set off by a time-device, occurred at around 9:15 p.m. at the Omori police station near Haneda airport where Chon will arrive Thursday and burned for about 2 minutes before it was extinguished. No damage was done to the vehicles inside the car park which is located under an expressway. The attack marked the 18th guerrilla action waged by radicals since the government announced Chon's visit.

Fukuyama Office Attacked

OW030236 Tokyo KYODO in English 0225 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Fukuyama, Hiroshima Pref. Sept. 3 KYODO -- Eight Molotov cocktail bottles were launched at a local government office building housing an Immigration Bureau office here early Monday morning. No casualties were reported. A man who called himself a member of the "Chukakuha (middle core) Faction Revolutionary Army" later claimed responsibility in a telephone call to KYODO NEWS SERVICE'S Osaka office.

The man said the group launched Molotov cocktail bottles at the government office building at Fukuyama port to oppose South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan later this week. The Molotov cocktail bottles, made of soft drink bottles, crashed through six window panes on the first and second floors of the three-story building and two of them burst into flames on a landing around 3:10 a.m., but the fire was put out soon after.

Police believe the radical leftist group hurled the bottles at the Fukuyama port office of the Hiroshima Immigration Bureau from the compound of a nearby shrine after igniting them. The telephone lines of the office building and its neighboring houses for government employees were cut around 2:45 a.m., police said.

The attack followed a similar one in which 24 Molotov cocktail bottles were launched, allegedly by the same group, early Sunday morning at government offices in Osaka which include the Osaka Immigration Bureau. The group also claimed responsibility in telephone calls to mass media late Sunday night for a fire set at a police station in Toyonaka, Osaka prefecture, Sunday night, also in opposition to Chon's Japan visit. The fire was brought under control after burning down two square meters of the door and wall of the unmanned police station.

Police also arrested a rightist man who fired two gun shots at the Takamatsu Airport office in the airport in Takamatsu Sunday evening to protest Chon's Japan visit. The shots broke one window pane in the office, but no one was injured. The man, Takahiro Kubo, 50, a rightist group leader, of Takamatsu, had been arrested last October when he attacked Japan Socialist Party Chairman Masahi Ishibashi with a wooden sword during a campaign visit to Takamatsu.

Pro-DPRK Residents Protest

OW020821 Tokyo KYODO in English 0742 GMT 2 Sep 84

[Text] Osaka, Sept. 2 KYODO -- The General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) Sunday held a local assembly against South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan's official visit to Japan September 6-8. At the assembly, attended by about 6,000 people, Sin Sang-dae, vice chairman of the pro-Pyongyang organization, claimed Chon's visit will obstruct peaceful unification of the two nations and worsen tension on the Korean peninsula. Osaka labor leader Heijiro Nakae, said in his address, "Let's fight against a military alliance by Japan, South Korea and the United States."

More Hunger Strikes

OW011117 Tokyo KYODO in English 1059 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 1 KYODO -- Ten South Korean residents of Japan and six Japanese students at the University of Tokyo joined in a hunger strike Saturday, in protest against President Chon Tu-hwan's state visit to Japan from next Thursday. The 10 South Koreans, comprising members of the South Korean Congress for Democracy and Unification (Hanmintong) and two other Korean groups in Japan, claimed that the Chon government is not a legitimate administration. Chon was elected president in 1981 through indirect voting. The former four-star Army general has often been accused by South Korean dissidents of violating human rights and oppressing freedom.

Members of local offices of the three South Korean groups have been on a hunger strike against Chon's Tokyo visit since earlier this week in Osaka, Hyogo and Hiroshima prefectures. They plan to hold a rally in Tokyo next Thursday, when Chon is scheduled to arrive here for a three-day official visit to Japan, the first by a South Korean head of state. Meanwhile, six students of the University of Tokyo also began a hunger strike Saturday in protest at the presidential visit, which they claim is aimed at creating a military alliance involving Japan, South Korea and the United States.

NAKASONE SENDS MESSAGE TO CHON ON RAIN DAMAGE

OW030803 Tokyo KYODO in English 0625 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Excerpt] Seoul, Sept. 3 KYODO -- Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Monday wired South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan a message of sympathy for damages from heavy rains in South Korea. The telegram conveyed Nakasone's message of sympathy with the South Korean Government and people, and expressed the hope for early restoration of damaged property.

MINISTRY SOURCES DENY PRC MESSAGE TO SOUTH KOREA

OW021111 Hong Kong AFP in English 0637 GMT 2 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept 2 (AFP) -- Japanese Foreign Ministry sources here today denied a report that Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian had asked Japan to pass on a message to South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan who is due here this week. The Hong Kong correspondent of the YOMIURI SHIMBUN, citing a reliable source in the British territory, reported that the message explained China's basic stand towards South Korea. The missive was given to Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe who met Mr. Wu last month, the newspaper said. The Chinese foreign minister stayed overnight in Tokyo on August 16 on his way home from a trip to Latin America. China has no diplomatic links with South Korea.

CHINESE VICE PREMIER LI PENG CONTINUES VISIT

Li Requests NTT Aid

OW031237 Tokyo KYODO in English 1224 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 3 KYODO -- Visiting Chinese Vice Premier Li Peng has asked the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Public Corp. (NTT) for assistance in building a 670-kilometer optical fiber communication line between Datong and Qinhuangdao via Beijing. NTT sources said Monday the request was made when the Chinese leader met with NTT President Hisashi Shinto Sunday.

NTT will send a survey team to China possibly next month to study the project. After that, it will work out an assistance plan in conjunction with related Japanese enterprises.

The optical fiber communication system for high-speed digital communication will be built along the Datong-Beijing-Qinhuangdao railway, which is now being electrified and double-tracked with Japan's financial assistance. Upon completion between 1988 and 1990, it will become China's first large-scale optical communication artery.

Only on July 20 this year, NTT signed a memorandum with China to supply crossbar telephone switchboards. Full-scale exports of this item will start next spring if test operation in China proves a success. The optical fiber communication project, therefore, will greatly expand bilateral cooperation in the field of communications.

Li Outlines New Plan

OW031303 Tokyo KYODO in English 1255 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 3 KYODO -- Chinese Vice Premier Li Peng said here Monday that modernization of aging factories and construction of power plants and transportation facilities will be given top priority under his country's new five-year economic development plan starting in 1986. Addressing a ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the Association for Promotion of International Trade, Japan, a private organization for East-West trade, Li asked for active technology transfers from Japan to help carry out the new plan. He said the plan calls for construction of a large dam and two or three nuclear power plants, and development of land and offshore oilfields and a strip coal mine in Inner Mongolia.

Li also called for more Japanese financial aid and invited Japanese businesses to set up fully-owned subsidiaries or joint ventures in China.

Talks With Abe

OW040112 Tokyo KYODO in English 0031 GMT 4 Sep 84

["No Major Breakthrough Expected for Sino-Soviet Ties" -- KYODO headline]

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 4 KYODO -- China's Vice Premier Li Peng told Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe Monday he expected no major breakthrough for some time to improve Sino-Soviet relationship. Li attended a banquet given in his honor and said there still is a plan for Soviet Vice Premier Ivan Arkhipov to visit China, according to Japanese officials. The Chinese, now in Japan on a 13-day visit since last Thursday, told Abe that he did not know when Arkhipov would come to Beijing.

Li was quoted as saying the pace of improvement slowed down after Konstantin Chernenko took power in the Kremlin last February. Arkhipov, originally scheduled to visit China last May, postponed the tour without giving any reason. Western mass media speculated that Moscow showed dissatisfaction with China's pro-American stand as shown in President Ronald Reagan's visit to China in April.

Li confirmed that foreign ministers of the two communist giants, Wu Xueqian and Andrey Gromyko, will meet in New York during the United Nations General Assembly, the officials said. The Chinese vice premier told Abe there will be no major breakthrough for Sino-Soviet ties if the Soviets continue to regard China as a threat. After more than two decades of bitter ties since late 1950's, China and the Soviet Union moved toward rapprochement in October 1982 by opening regular talks between vice foreign ministers. However, no major progress has been reported so far.

China strongly opposes the Soviet military buildup along the 7,200-meter border, the Soviet support for Vietnam's de facto military rule of Kampuchea and the Soviet presence in Afghanistan.

Vice Premier Li unveiled his personal view that China hopes South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan would help ease tensions on the Korean peninsula, the Japanese officials said. Li told Abe he does not want Chon's September 6-8 visit to cement division of the peninsula. Foreign Minister Abe replied that Japan is fully cautious not to heighten tensions on the Korean peninsula, they said.

Abe offered Japanese economic assistance especially in the fields of energy, communications and transportation, the officials said.

Li asked for Japanese assistance for China's new five year economic development plan for 1986-1990 which is still in the making and is expected to feature a number of major energy and transportation projects.

Meanwhile, China's official XINHUA NEWS AGENCY reported that Li and Abe shared common views that relations with Vietnam "could be improved if only Vietnam withdrew its troops from Kampuchea."

Firm's Cooperation Sought

OW030507 Tokyo KYODO in English 0411 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 4 KYODO -- Visiting Chinese Vice Premier Li Peng Tuesday called for cooperation from Japanese enterprises in pushing ahead with China's Seventh Five-Year Economic Development Plan starting in 1986. At the same time, Li requested Japan increase imports of Chinese oil and agricultural produce and Japanese corporations step up business activities, including joint ventures, in China.

He made the requests in a meeting with Chairman Yoshihiro Inayama and other leaders of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren).

In order to maintain economic growth of some 8 percent, Li said, the Chinese economic plan will focus on building infrastructures, including highways and railways, and energy development centering on hydroelectric power generation.

Inayama replied, "We'd like to cooperate with the Chinese as the Chinese economic development will contribute to the prosperity and peace of the two countries (Japan and China) as well as the rest of the world."

MINISTRY ON HONECKER'S FAILURE TO MEET OFFICIAL

OW030915 Tokyo KYODO in English 0910 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 3 KYODO -- A senior Foreign Ministry official expressed regret Monday at an East German failure to fulfill an arranged meeting between its leader Erich Honecker and former Foreign Minister Yoshio Sakurauchi at the Leipzig Fair. "It's insulting," the official commented on the Sunday affair, for which the East Germans have given no reason so far. He said the Japanese Embassy there was trying to arrange a Honecker-Sakurauchi meeting in Berlin.

Reports reaching Tokyo from Leipzig said the East German leader left the fairground earlier than scheduled and did not meet Sakurauchi who arrived there just on time. "The East German Government set the time for the meeting in the first place," explained the Foreign Ministry official who declined to be named. Sakurauchi arrived in East Germany Saturday from Moscow.

EXPORT OF OUTBOARD MOTORS TO IRAN, IRAQ SUSPENDED

OW030901 Tokyo KYODO in English 0822 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 3 KYODO -- Four Japanese motor manufacturers have suspended exports of large outboard motors to Iran and Iraq at the request of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) for fear of them being used for "boat bombs," MITI officials said Monday. The request was made last week to Honda Motor Co., Suzuki Motor Co., Yamaha Motor Co. and Tohatsu Corp., the officials said.

The U.S. Government has informed Tokyo of the possibility of boat bombs being used against tankers and warships in the protracted Iran-Iraq war, they said. Involved in the export suspension are outboard motors of 50 horsepower or more.

Japan shipped 1,067 outboard motors to Iran in 1983 and 739 in the first half of 1984, mostly small ones. Only one motor was exported to Iraq in the three years to last July. But this year, Iran and Iraq had ordered large outboard motors from the Japanese manufacturers, industry sources said.

PARLIAMENTARIANS LEAVE TO TOUR INDONESIA

OW030425 Tokyo KYODO in English 0348 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Tokyo, Sept. 3 KYODO -- A seven-member delegation from the Japan-Indonesia Parliamentarians League left for Jakarta Monday for an inspection tour of Indonesia.

The group, headed by league President Michio Watanabe, comprised members of both the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors. The delegates are scheduled to meet President Suharto and other Indonesian leaders and make an inspection of development projects in east Java and northern part of Sumatra before returning home on September 10.

USSR REACTION TO U.S. DEPLOYMENT SUPPORTED

SK010227 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0900 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Unattributed talk: "Expression of a Resolute Stand Toward the Country's Security and Peace in Europe and the World"]

[Text] The Soviet party, government, and people are assuming a resolute stand to counter the maneuvers of the U.S. and other imperialists, exposing and denouncing them for intensifying war maneuvers in Europe and the rest of the world.

In his interview with PRAVDA, Admiral Sergey Gorshkov, commander in chief of Soviet naval forces, stated that the United States has virtually proclaimed all the important oceans and coastal areas of many sovereign countries to be their lifelines in order to secure unlimited supremacy over the world's waters, and that the Soviet Union, with approximately 40,000 km of coast line, cannot but pay attention to its security. He noted that, to counter U.S. and NATO naval deployment of nuclear missiles targeted against the Soviet Union, it launched the work of building a nuclear missile marine fleet. He made it clear that the White House should know that, if the U.S. imperialists triggered a war against the Soviet Union, they would suffer from annihilating and retaliatory blows, including a blow from the sea.

In his talk issued on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Strategic Rocket Forces, Vladimir Tolubko, their commander in chief, said that the founding of the Soviet Strategic Rocket Forces was a new and correct measure taken to strengthen the defense capabilities of the Soviet Union and prevent the outbreak of world war III, being prepared by the imperialist circles of aggression. Referring to the fact that Western publications, U.S. publications in particular, rave about the overwhelming superiority of Soviet Armed Forces, he noted: It would be correct to say that the United States is making efforts not to restore a balance, which no one has ever broken, but to achieve a unilateral superiority and change the balance of strategic forces in its favor. One and a half years ago, the Soviet leadership stated that it would inevitably answer the U.S. challenge with the deployment of a corresponding weaponry system; in other words, it would answer it with its own missiles similar to MX missiles and with its own long-range cruise missiles against the U.S. cruise missiles. We have never shown contradiction in our words and actions.

In an article refuting the allegation of an assistant to the U.S. President that the U.S. nuclear arsenal has been reduced, PRAVDA said: During its 4-year rule, the U.S. Administration has concluded no agreement on limiting or reducing weapons with the Soviet Union and has tried to trample underfoot what its predecessors achieved. To give an example, the Geneva talks on nuclear weapons, the Stockholm conference on the consolidation of trust and security and on arms reduction in Europe, and the Vienna conference on the reduction of armies and weapons in central Europe have been frustrated. Also, there is no clear desire to settle the question of banning chemical weapons. The incumbent U.S. Administration is maneuvering to destroy stipulations of the existing agreement on limiting offensive strategic weapons. Washington does not welcome the Soviet proposal for talks to take urgent measures to prevent the militarization of space.

TASS recently carried a commentator's article denouncing the U.S. stand against the Soviet proposal on the prevention of the militarization of space. The news agency said that the United States was assuming a negative attitude toward the Soviet proposal on the prevention of space militarization.

The news agency noted that the United States pays attention not to the question of achieving an optimistic result in guaranteeing peaceful use of space by beginning talks with the Soviet Union, but to the question of deploying a large-scale antimissile [word indistinct] based in space by pushing ahead with the plan to build a space anti-missile system as soon as possible.

The news agency continued: The U.S. maneuvers against the Soviet proposal on the prevention of space militarization show that the United States shows a very irresponsible attitude toward questions regarding the vital interests of the world's peoples.

This stand taken by the Soviet party, government, and people to counter the U.S. imperialists' new war maneuvers is an expression of a just position toward their country's security and peace in Europe and the world.

U.S., SOUTH USED, 'BLEW UP' KOREAN AIRLINER

SK031157 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] The families of the victims of the Korean airliner incident and masses of all walks of life strongly denounce the U.S. imperialists and the Chon Tu-hwan ring who used the Korean airliner for a spy operation and blew it up [as heard].

A Korean Airlines pilot said that it was true that the Korean airliner was used for the U.S. spy operation and exposed: Former operatives of the U.S. CIA and a military intelligence agency exposed the fact that the Korean airliner was used by the United States to test Soviet defense capabilities in the Far East, and was downed and blown up, causing a great stir in the international community. Judged from a technological point of view, the Korean airliner could not have deviated from its navigational route without outside interference. When the incident was first reported, I suspected that it might be an act of the United States.

The Korean airliner incident was an inhuman and criminal act in which the United States offered the Korean airliner as a sacrifice to obtain information. The U.S. rascals are that kind of people, and Chon Tu-hwan, who acted in compliance with the U.S. demand, is a thorough colonial stooge and a conspirator in the Korean airliner incident. I think that the U.S. criminals and the conspirator traitor Chon Tu-hwan who massacred the 269 crewmembers and passengers should be subjected to due punishment.

A woman named Kim, the widow of a victim of the Korean airliner incident living in Seoul, said that she could not suppress her resentment and indignation when she heard recently that the Korean airliner was used for a U.S. spy operation and was blown up, and continued: When the incident occurred, I thought that the Korean airliner had strayed from its air route into Soviet airspace and was shot down. The U.S. rascals are human butchers who dare to commit barbarity beyond the imagination of human beings. Chon Tu-hwan, who conspired with such rascals and offered the passenger plane which had 269 persons aboard, is the same kind of human butcher. She then demanded that the Chon Tu-hwan ring which conspired and colluded with the United States make public the truth of the incident.

A Mr Yi, the brother of a victim of the Korean airliner incident living in Seoul, said that he could not suppress surging indignation when he heard that the United States fabricated the Korean airliner incident and planned to use it for an anticommunist and anti-Soviet campaign, and continued:

If there are those in the world who kill human beings and use it for propaganda, they can be none other than the U.S. rascals and the Chon Tu-hwan ring. As long as such rascals exist, we, the people, cannot live peacefully even for one day. We should drive the U.S. Yankees out of this land and overthrow the Chon Tu-hwan ring, their stooge.

CPRF SECRETARIAT ON U.S. PIPELINE WEAPON PLAN

SK010636 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Information No 285 issued by the CPRF Secretariat -- read by announcer]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists' maneuvers to beef up military forces in South Korea have reached a more dangerous point. According to news reports issued a few days ago by foreign news agencies, including REUTER, the U.S. imperialists are hatching a criminal plot to introduce into South Korea a new weapon called pipeline, loaded with explosives.

The U.S. imperialists reportedly have developed this new weapon and have already secretly test-exploded it many times in West Germany and South Korea, to test its efficiency.

The pipeline, loaded with explosives used in the tests of this weapon -- an 82-meter-long pipe, 150 mm in diameter, filled with 1,500 kg of an explosive liquid called (?nitromethane) -- is known as a dangerous weapon because of its great destructive power.

The U.S. imperialists are now trying to introduce it into South Korea and bury it in the frontline south of the Military Demarcation Line [MDL]. This is another vicious challenge to the aspirations of the nation for peace and peaceful reunification. Branding such U.S. imperialist maneuvers to beef up military forces as an intolerable criminal act of obstructing peaceful reunification of the nation, of further aggravating tension, and of increasing the danger of a new war, the CPRF strongly denounces it.

At a time when the world's peace-loving progressive people are hoping that our proposal for tripartite talks will be realized at an early date in order to achieve peace and the peaceful reunification of Korea, the U.S. imperialists are attempting to ship into South Korea the dangerous pipeline loaded with explosives. This shows that they are more interested in beefing up military forces in South Korea than in peaceful reunification of Korea and that they are about to further strengthen South Korea as a forward base for provoking a new war.

The purpose behind such maneuvers by the U.S. imperialists is to lead the situation on the Korean peninsula to the brink of war by further aggravating tension there.

Foreign news agencies said that once this weapon is installed in areas around the MDL in Korea, tension on the Korean peninsula will be further aggravated. This clearly shows the danger of such U.S. imperialist maneuvers to beef up military forces.

If, ignoring our sincere efforts for peace and proposal for tripartite talks, the U.S. imperialists continue to beef up military forces, they will never be able to avoid greater denunciation and rejection at home and abroad as distributors of peace and obstructors of peaceful reunification.

The U.S. imperialists should immediately abandon their maneuvers to ship into South Korea mass destruction weapons of all descriptions, including the pipeline loaded with explosives, and should leave South Korea at an early date, taking all weapons of mass destruction, including the nuclear weapons they have already introduced, along with the aggressive troops.

[Dated] 1 September 1984, Pyongyang

U.S. 'PREARRANGED' CHON'S ECONOMIC AID PROPOSAL

SK020704 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0952 GMT 31 Aug 84

[NODONG SINMUN 31 August commentary: "Favor for the Stooges"]

[Text] Without receiving or obtaining their U.S. masters' directives and agreement in advance, the South Korean puppets can do nothing. This is proven once again by the highest praise that the United States has heaped on the so-called proposals put forth by the puppets.

According to some news reports, the U.S. State Department has recently extended full support to traitor Chon Tu-hwan's proposal for economic cooperation. This is part of a scenario prearranged by the United States to (?instigate) the puppet Chon Tu-hwan.

As is known, not long ago traitor Chon Tu-hwan, while prattling about trade and economic cooperation, preposterously said that he would give gratuitous technology and materials to somebody. No one believes that the puppets, who are struggling to breathe under the burden of a nearly 500 billion-dollar debt owed to foreign countries and who are running riot to bring the confused and chaotic colonial economy under control, could have proposed such things on their own.

However, by hurriedly expressing its firm supportive stand regarding the puppet's proposals, the U.S. State Department has exposed before the world that relations between the U.S. imperialists and the puppets are those of master and servant [word indistinct] and that such proposals are the product of preplanned efforts between them. It is, therefore, no accident that public opinion views it as [words indistinct] favor designed by the U.S. masters to raise the puppet's popularity.

Such an ugly scene is being created now before traitor Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan. The U.S. babbling about the South Korean economy, as if it were growing, and its heaping of praise on the so-called proposals, which are not worth a penny, plus Japan's babbling about welcoming the colonial stooge and its kicking off a racket regarding the visit, cannot but be viewed as a clumsy drama staged in accordance with the U.S. strategic orbit.

Just world public opinion is now denouncing traitor Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan as a trip by a colonial stooge who is visiting his master and as a power-reeking war trip that will further strain the situation in the Far East.

It is nothing but a shameful trip by a colonial servant whose purpose is to thrust himself deeper into the bosom of the Japanese brigands and to further accelerate the U.S.-Japan-South Korea triangular military alliance.

In an attempt to embellish the miserable appearance of such a colonial servant and to provide the traitorous stooge crossing the Hyonhaetan Sea to Japan with a dowry, the United States has instigated the puppet to put forth some proposals and then played the same of hurriedly supporting them.

No drama or florid language can cloak the relationship between a master and his servant. The master's favor will only end up being the laughing stock of the world.

SOUTH'S QUEST FOR ENTRY INTO UN DENOUNCED

NODONG SINMUN Commentary

SK030711 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0955 GMT 1 Sep 84

[NODONG SINMUN 1 September commentary: "Diplomacy by a Splittist Maniac"]

[Text] The Chon Tu-hwan ring is again publicizing its proposition for entry into the United Nations. According the U.S. paper, THE WASHINGTON TIMES, several days ago, the assistant minister of the puppet foreign ministry said that the South would actively push ahead with entry into the United Nations, and the puppet foreign minister will go to the forum of the United Nations next month to win support for their entry into the United Nations.

The puppets' proposition for entry into the United Nations is a proposition for perpetual division which the U.S. imperialists mapped out and handed over to the puppets a long time ago with a view to internationally justifying the division of Korea. As soon as it was put forth to the world, this splittist proposition, which runs counter to the Korean people's wishes for reunification and to the cause of world peace, became the object of denunciation by world public opinion and was rejected naturally at the United Nations.

The puppets are more fully revealing their nature as truculent splittists by publicizing again such an unworthy thing. It is the unchanged ambition of the Chon Tu-hwan ring to continuously hold onto its position of stooge in return for dividing the country and leaving perpetually South Korea to the U.S. imperialists' care as their colony. Proceeding from such a criminal ambition, the puppets are brutally suppressing and murdering those at home who demand peace and reunification; in terms of North-South relations, they are inciting confrontation through schemes of anticommunism and war; and, abroad they are raising a wind of diplomatic offensives aimed at justifying national division.

The puppets are kicking up rackets by putting forward the issue of entry into the United Nations. This is part of a scheme aimed at raising higher the barrier of division at home and abroad. This is an intolerable, antinational criminal act.

Until now, the puppets have clamored as if they feigned interest in reunification, talking about democratic unification through national reconciliation and about talks. Just a few days ago, traitor Chon Tu-hwan made a long harangue on peaceful reunification and North-South dialogue. But, the puppets' latest act shows that all of their remarks are only deceitful propaganda aimed at covering up their splittist nature.

We have put forth the proposal for tripartite talks to remove the danger of war from the Korean peninsula, guarantee peace, and provide a peaceful precondition for the fatherland's reunification. Our proposal for tripartite talks has aroused full support and sympathy from the entire nation and the world's peace-loving peoples because of its realistic nature and its justness. At this very moment, the puppets have put forth the splittist proposition for entry into the United Nations, turning their faces away from our proposal. This is a challenge to us and a mockery of the world's peoples who desire peace and reunification for Korea.

South Korea is a colony of the U.S. imperialists. The Chon Tu-hwan ring is a group of colonial stooges who have no real power or independence. Such persons look on with envy at the United Nations. This is presumptuous in itself.

People will not tolerate the treacherous Chon Tu-hwan clique which is trying to cut the blood vessel of the nation by internationally justifying division, not satisfied with raising a barrier of division and dividing the territory.

VRPR Views Admission Effort

SK010524 (Clandestine) Voice of the RPR in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 29 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] In this hour, we will discuss the brazen maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan ring to concoct two Koreas. The maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan ring to concoct two Koreas by perpetuating the division of the country have increasingly assumed a brazen nature, greatly enraging people at home and abroad. This has been exemplified by the fact that Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong, on 28 August, begged Nga Gnii-Voeto, visiting foreign minister of Central Africa, to support the simultaneous admission of North and South Korea to the United Nations, and by the fact that the 27 August edition of THE WASHINGTON TIMES reported that Yi Won-kyong will visit the United Nations and meet representatives of various foreign countries to discuss issues concerning the admission of South Korea to the United Nations. Such maneuvers by the Chon Tu-hwan ring are unpardonable crimes designed to perpetuate the present state of division.

As is known widely, the Chon Tu-hwan ring's frequent babbling about unilateral admission to the United Nations and about the simultaneous admission of North and South Korea to the United Nations is an unpardonable crime designed to concoct two Koreas by internationally legalizing, or by making a settled matter, the present state of our country -- a state of temporary division -- through the United Nations, an international agency.

The Chon Tu-hwan regime is a puppet regime which is not allowed to be admitted to any international agency. South Korea is a U.S. colony, and the South Korean regime is a marionette regime established by the U.S. aggressors to maintain colonial rule. The Chon Tu-hwan group is a marionette group which lacks political sovereignty and the prerogative of Supreme Command of the Armed Forces and which is not qualified to represent our people. Such being the case, it is insolent for this group to maneuver to be admitted to the United Nations.

In order to achieve the country's independent and peaceful reunification, the North and South should never be admitted separately to the United Nations. In order to be admitted to the United Nations before the country's reunification, they should be admitted as a single state with such a title as the Confederal Republic of Koryo, at least after the adoption of a confederal system.

Nevertheless, whenever it has opened its mouth, the Chon Tu-hwan ring has raised a commotion, babbling about admission to the United Nations and revealing its heinous, splittist desire to concoct two Koreas by stealthily using the name of the United Nations.

The proposal for admission to the United Nations -- which the Chon-Tu-whan ring has clamorously espoused -- was invented by the U.S. imperialist a long time ago to concoct two Koreas by perpetuating the division of the North and South and to hold on to South Korea continuously. The U.S. imperialists have been engrossed in such a maneuver to legalize the puppet regime they have illegally concocted and make the division of the Korean peninsula recognized internationally.

While chanting the slogan of division, which has been handed over by the masters, the Chon Tu-hwan ring, a group of faithful stooges of the U.S. imperialists, have maneuvered in various ways to perpetuate the present state of division and to concoct two Koreas. While clamorously babbling about reunification and about dialogue as if it were interested in reunification, the Chon Tu-hwan ring has sought, behind the scenes, the line for war, division, and anticommunist confrontation. Who are those who have unhesitatingly made absurd remarks that there is only confrontation in dealing with North Korea, that one should not imagine peaceful reunification, and that the barrel of the gun will solve the reunification question? Who are those who, having cancelled the withdrawal of the U.S. forces from South Korea and, while adding impetus to preparations for a war of northward invasion, have led the situation on the Korean peninsula to the verge of war?

The Chon Tu-hwan ring is a thoroughgoing splittist group which is not qualified to refer to reunification and to dialogue for reunification.

When we view traitor Chon Tu-hwan's junket to Japan, which is scheduled for this September, we can see, in this context, that this visit is a treacherous one designed to perpetuate the division of our country and to concoct two Koreas by strengthening military collusion between South Korea and the United States. The Chon Tu-hwan ring would be wise to immediately respond to North Korea's proposal -- an epochal measure for solving the question of the Korean peninsula -- for holding a tripartite meeting, instead of coming up with a splittist slogan for unilateral or simultaneous admission to the United Nations.

REPORTAGE ON MILITARY DELEGATION'S VISIT TO GDR

Banquet for O Chin-u

SK020814 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] On the evening of 29 August, General Heinz Hoffmann, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and minister of national defense of the GDR, hosted a banquet for the DPRK Government military delegation that was visiting his country. Invited to this banquet were members of the government delegation of our country led by General O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces, and Ambassador Pak Hyon-po of our country to the GDR.

Participating in the banquet were Colonel General Fritz Streletz, chief of staff of the National People's Army; Colonel General Heinz Kessler, director of the Political Main Administration of the National People's Army; deputy minister of the Ministry of National Defense Colonel General Wolfgang Reinhold, chief of the Air Force and Air Defense Command; Colonel General Wilhelm Ehm, chief of People's Navy; Colonel General Werner Fleissner, chief of Technology and Weapons; Lieutenant General Joachim Goldbach, chief of Rear Services; deputy chiefs of the National People's Army generals and functionaries concerned.

Comrades O Chin-u and Heinz Hoffmann spoke at the banquet. The participants in the banquet toasted to the long life and good health of Comrade Kim Il-song, and great leader of our party and people, and to the long life and good health of Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the GDR Council of State. The banquet proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

The delegation paid a courtesy call on the minister of national defense of the GDR.

Visit to Berlin Memorial

SK020559 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0338 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 3 (KCNA) -- The Korean Government military delegation headed by Comrade General O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, on a visit to the German Democratic Republic, laid a wreath in the memorial of the victims by fascism and militarism in Berlin on August 30.

Present there were Comrade General Heinz Hoffmann, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and minister of national defense of the GDR, and officials concerned.

On the same day, the delegation inspected the military university, military museum and art gallery in Dresden. On August 31, it went to the Karl Zeiss Jena complex and the machine station of the Neustadt Orla agro-industrial combine in Jena, Gera County. That evening, it was entertained to a banquet by the Neustadt Orla agro-industrial combine.

GDR PARLIAMENTARY GROUP LEADER ARRIVES FOR VISIT

Airport Arrival

SK312227 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Pyongyang August 31 (KCNA) -- Herbert Fechner, chairman of the parliamentary group of the German Democratic Republic, arrived in Pyongyang today by plane.

He was met at the airport by Yo Yon-ku vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, Yi Chun-sik, general secretary of the Committee of Parliamentary Group of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and an official of the GDR Embassy in Pyongyang.

Fechner, Yang Hyong-sop Talks

SK312303 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2241 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 1 (KCNA) -- Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, on August 31 met and had a friendly talk with Herbert Fechner, chairman of the parliamentary group of the German Democratic Republic, who paid a courtesy call on him.

Present on the occasion were Yo Yon-ku, vice-chairman of the Standing Committee of the SPA, Yi Chun-sik, secretary of the Parliamentary Group Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Karl-Heinz Kern, GDR ambassador to Korea.

MEETING MARKS BULGARIAN REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

SK311233 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0807 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Pyongyang August 31 (KCNA) -- A meeting was held on August 30 on the Korea-Bulgaria Friendship Samjiyon cooperative farm on the 40th anniversary of the victory of the socialist revolution in Bulgaria. The meeting was attended by Yi In-chae, vice-chairman of the South Hwanghae provincial people's committee, personages concerned and farmers there.

Invited to the meeting were Bulgarian Ambassador to Korea Vasil Khubchev and his embassy officials. Speeches were exchanged at the meeting.

BULGARIAN SONG, DANCE ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE GIVEN

SK040431 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0353 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 4 (KCNA) -- The Sliven Provincial People's Song and Dance Ensemble of Bulgaria on a visit to our country gave the premiere last evening in the theatre of the Pyongyang Moranbong Art Troupe.

Appreciating the performance were Chang Chol, vice-minister of culture and art; Choe Yong-hwa, first vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of the Unions of Literature and Arts; Kim Won-chin, vice-president of the Academy of Agricultural Science and vice-chairman of the Korea-Bulgaria Friendship Association; and officials concerned, working people and artists in the city. Also seeing the performance were Bulgarian Ambassador to Korea Vasil Khubchev and his embassy officials.

The Bulgarian artistes put on stage a colourful program including songs, dances and national instrumental music. The performers excellently sang "Song of General Kim Il-song" in Korean, winning the warm applause of the audience. At the end of the performance, baskets of flowers were presented to the performers in congratulation of their successful performance.

The ensemble arrived in Pyongyang on September 1.

GREETINGS SENT ON VIETNAMESE NATIONAL DAY

Kim Greets Le Duan

SK010828 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0806 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 1 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on September 1 sent a message of greetings to Le Duan, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, and Truong Chinh, chairman of the State Council of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The message reads; I, on behalf of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people and on my own, extend congratulations to you and, through you, to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the Vietnamese people on the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the national day of Vietnam.

The Vietnamese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam have achieved the complete liberation and unification of the country through their protracted arduous struggle against the imperialist aggressors and are making a vigorous struggle for the building of socialism.

Believing that the friendly relations between the Korean and Vietnamese peoples will continue to develop in the future, I take this opportunity of wishing you and your people great successes in the efforts to fulfil the Third Five-Year Plan set by the 5th Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam.

Kang Greet Pham Van Dong

SK020850 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0837 GMT 2 Sep 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 2 (KCNA) -- Premier Kang Song-san sent a message of greetings to Premier Pham Van Dong on the occasion of the 39th anniversary of the national day on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The message sincerely wished the premier and people of Vietnam great success in the efforts to carry out the Third Five-Year plan.

Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of greetings to Foreign Minister of Vietnam Nguyen Co Thach.

LIBYAN REVOLUTION 15TH ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED

Kim Congratulates Al-Qadhdhafi

SK311148 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1038 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Pyongyang August 31 (KCNA) -- The great leader President Kim Il-song sent a message of greetings to Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great September 1 Revolution of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on August 31.

The message reads: On the 15th anniversary of the September 1 Revolution of the Libyan people I warmly congratulate you, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and the Libyan people on behalf of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Korean people and on my behalf.

Under your correct leadership the Libyan people have made great changes in their endeavours to firmly safeguard the national independence and sovereignty and build a new society following the September 1 Revolution.

The Korean people are sincerely rejoiced over the achievements made by the Libyan people in the revolution and construction under the slogan of "Jamahiriya" and extend full support to and firm solidarity with your just struggle to resolutely repulse continued aggression and military provocations by U.S. imperialism and baffle expansionist ambition of the Israeli Zionists.

On this occasion I heartily wish you and the friendly Libyan people greater successes in their undertakings to safeguard the sovereignty of Libya and dignity of the Arab nations and build a new prosperous society developed in many-sided way. It is my conviction that the friendship and cooperation between our two peoples firmly cemented on the occasion of your visit to our country will further consolidate and develop in future.

NODONG SINMUN Marks Occasion

SK010825 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0802 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 1 (KCNA) -- Papers here today dedicated editorial articles to the 15th anniversary of the September 1 Revolution of the Libyan people.

Noting that the Korean people have followed with happy feelings the great changes which have taken place in Libya after the revolution, NODONG SINMUN says:

Maintaining chajusong (independence) and non-aligned policy, Libya struggles to defend the dignity of the Arab nation.

Korea and Libya are both new-emerging countries standing against the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and member nations of the Non-aligned Movement. After the opening of the diplomatic relations on January 23, 1974, the friendly and cooperative relations have been favorably developed between the two countries. In particular, the significant meeting and talks between the great leader President Kim Il-song and His Excellency Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great September 1 Revolution, in Pyongyang in Autumn, 1982, marked a historic milestone in the development of the friendly and cooperative relations between Korea and Libya.

Greater successes will be made in the future in the struggle of the friendly Libyan people for smashing the repeated aggressive moves of the U.S. imperialists, defending the sovereignty and security of the country and building a new society.

O CHIN-U GREET'S PDRY COUNTERPARTS ON ARMY DAY

SK312241 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2232 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 1 (KCNA) -- General O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Lt. [as received] General Salih Muslih Qasim, minister of defence, on the occasion of the 13th anniversary of Army Day of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY].

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the Armies of the two countries will develop more favourably in the idea of independence, friendship and peace, the message sincerely wishes the defence minister of Democratic Yemen new success in his responsible work for strengthening the defense capacity of the country and increasing the combat capacity of the Democratic Yemeni Army.

NODONG SINMUN NOTES MALAYSIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY

SK311158 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Pyongyang August 31 (KCNA) -- NODONG SINMUN today in an article dedicated to the 27th anniversary of the independence of Malaysia says that the Korean people wish the Malaysian people greater success in their struggle for the country's prosperity. Noting that the independence of Malaysia was a great event in the history of her people, the paper says:

In recent years a progress has been made in the economic construction of Malaysia. A plan for agricultural development from this year to 2000 was worked out and is being promoted. Malaysia is pursuing a non-aligned policy externally and developing friendly and cooperative relations with many countries.

Now the Malaysian Government is strengthening South-South cooperation with the developing countries. It attaches great significance particularly to the development of the relations with the ASEAN nations and the nations of the Organisation of Islamic States and striving to develop bilateral cooperation with Asian regional countries.

Our people are following with deep interest the building of a new life by the Malaysian people and making efforts to expand and develop friendly and cooperative relations with them in many domains.

GREEK SOCIALISTS CONGRATULATED ON ANNIVERSARY

OW030043 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2200 GMT 2 Sep 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 3 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea on September 2 sent a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the Panhellenic Socialist Movement on the occasion of its 10th founding anniversary.

The message reads: The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea extends warm felicitations and greetings to the Central Committee of your movement, its entire members and the friendly Greek people on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of its founding.

In the past period your movement put up a correct fighting programme conforming to the interests of the Greek people and the specific conditions of Greece and has powerfully struggled for the independent and democratic development of the country. The historic victory of your movement in the parliamentary elections in 1981 proved that it enjoyed firm support of the broad sections of democratic forces and working masses of Greece. Today your movement is vigorously striving for social progress and the establishment of a nuclear free zone in the Balkan area.

Expressing firm solidarity with the just cause of your movement, we take this opportunity of wishing you greater success in the future work for implementing the decisions of the congress of your movement.

CAMEROONIAN ASSEMBLY GROUP ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS

SK312259 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2239 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 1 (KCNA) -- The parliamentary delegation of the Republic of Cameroon headed by His Excellency Salomon Tandeng Muna, president of the National Assembly of Cameroon, left for home yesterday by plane after an official goodwill visit to our country. It was seen off at the airport by Chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly Yang Hyong-sop, Secretary of the Parliament Group Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Yi Chun-sik and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Yong-sop.

A farewell function took place at the airport.

MEDIA, OFFICIALS OBSERVE NONALIGNMENT DAY 1 SEP

NODONG SINMUN Editorial

SK030934 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2132 GMT 31 Aug 84

[NODONG SINMUN 1 September editorial: "Let Us Further Strengthen and Develop the Non-Aligned Movement"]

[Text] Today marks the Day of Nonalignment. On the occasion of this day, the Korean people send warm congratulations and greetings to the peoples of the nonaligned countries and express firm solidarity with their just struggle to attain the lofty aim of the Non-aligned Movement.

Since its emergence in the arena of history, the Nonaligned Movement has thus far trod a genuinely proud path. The last 20 years, 9 of which have seen the advance of the Nonaligned Movement, were days of struggle when it vigorously advanced the anti-imperialist road of independence, smashing vicious offensives by all reactionary forces, including imperialists, and were proud days when it actively contributed to mankind's common cause of building a new, just, and peaceful society.

In the course of the great struggle to create its new history, the Nonaligned Movement has grown and has been strengthened into a powerful revolutionary force. Having made its first step with 25 countries about 20 years ago, the Nonaligned Movement has grown into a comprehensive international movement embracing over 100 countries with a population of hundreds of millions on the five continents.

Today the Nonaligned Movement augustly displays its dignity as a mighty revolutionary force of our times, which stands against imperialism and as an individual political force which no one can ignore. The Nonaligned Movement -- a progressive movement which opposes domination and subordination by imperialism and seeks independence -- has greatly affected the course of revolutionary changes in the world. With the emergence, growth, and strengthening of the Nonaligned Movement, the world's anti-imperialist and revolutionary forces for independence have been decisively enhanced and the imperialist reactionary forces have been seriously undermined.

The Nonaligned Movement plays an important role in solving international problems in conforming with the will and interests of peoples, in checking and frustrating the maneuvers of imperialists for aggression and war, and in defending world peace and security.

The voice of nonaligned countries has increased in international arenas, including the United Nations, and has driven the imperialist reactionary forces into a defensive and passive position. Now no international problem can be justly settled without considering the nonaligned countries. Indeed, the Nonaligned Movement displays greater traction and invincible vitality with each passing day.

The existence and activities of the Nonaligned Movement are a strong driving force which has accelerated the declination and downfall of the imperialist reactionary forces and is vigorously advancing the historical march of our times.

Today, the Nonaligned Movement is winning one victory after another. This is connected with the unanimous efforts of the nonaligned countries to strengthen and develop this movement.

The DPRK, a dignified member of the Nonaligned Movement, has made every effort to expand and develop the movement. Always paying deep attention to the Nonaligned Movement, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has set forth correct policies toward its development and has wisely led the external activities of our party and of the government of the republic. Our party and the government of the republic have greatly contributed to helping the Nonaligned Movement break through difficulties, defend its lofty ideology and basic principle, and achieve unity by conducting principled activities in the international arena, including summit meetings the nonaligned countries, in accordance with the ideas and policies presented by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. Efforts made by our party and by the government of the republic to strengthen and develop the Nonaligned Movement are widely known to the nonaligned countries and the world's progressive people. The nonaligned countries and the world's progressive people highly praise the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's ideas and theories on the Nonaligned Movement and express their full support for and sympathy with the efforts of the government of our republic for its unity and cohesion.

The history of the Nonaligned Movement confirms that, when the nonaligned countries struggle in unison by firmly adhering to the stand of genuinely defending the overall interests of this movement, they can truly exert great power. The Nonaligned Movement has advanced far from the point where it first launched its historic march. However, the sacred fighting cause of this movement has not ended. To discharge its noble missions before the times and history, the Nonaligned Movement should advance, holding ever higher the banner of nonalignment.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: Today further expansion and development of the Nonaligned Movement are of great significance in firmly defending the sovereignty of the nonaligned nations, and checking and frustrating the maneuvers of the imperialists for aggression and war, and in defending world peace and security.

The question of expanding and developing the Nonaligned Movement is a very urgent one in light of the history of our times and the prevailing situation. Only when the Nonaligned Movement is expanded and developed can mankind's common cause of accelerating the independence of the world and of ensuring a durable peace be powerfully promoted.

Today the imperialists, led by U.S. imperialism, are tenaciously clinging to maneuvers for aggression and war in order to extricate themselves from the crises of ruin. They are fanatically running wild in accelerating the arms race and in producing weapons of massacre, including nuclear weapons, and raving about military superiority.

They are also unhesitatingly perpetrating maneuvers for armed interference, subversion, sabotage, threats, and blackmail against progressive countries. Because of this, the sovereignty of some countries is being ruthlessly infringed upon or threatened and the strained international situation is aggravated. Today the danger of a new world war is further increasing. This situation urgently demands that the imperialists' maneuvers for aggression and war be checked and frustrated and world peace defended.

To realize this demand of the prevailing situation, it is important to expand and further develop the Nonaligned Movement -- a powerful antiwar and peace-loving force of our times. If all the peace-loving forces in the world, including the Nonaligned Movement, resolutely counter and fight imperialism, the danger of war can be averted and peace can be defended.

To expand and develop the Nonaligned Movement, all nonaligned countries should adhere to independence and closely unite with each other. Unity is the vital force of the Nonaligned Movement. It experiences victories when united and fails when divided. In particular, unity becomes a more important matter when the imperialists are persistently maneuvering to split and destroy the Nonaligned Movement.

The nonaligned countries should make efforts to strengthen the unity and cohesion of the Nonaligned Movement, giving priority to unity. To this end, it is important to adhere to independence. Independence is the basic principle of the Nonaligned Movement and the basis of unity. Only unity based on independence can be truly voluntary and solid.

The nonaligned countries should smash to smithereens the imperialists' maneuvers for division and alienation with their united strength and demonstrate the movement's might.

Economic and technological cooperation and exchange must be strengthened among the nonaligned countries to expand and develop the movement. The development of economic and technological cooperation and exchange on the basis of the principle of satisfying each other's needs and the principle of collective self-reliance by the nonaligned countries is an important guarantee in building a self-reliant national economy. Only when economic self-reliance is achieved can already-obtained political independence be consolidated and independence in all state activities be firmly adhered to. The nonaligned countries should take substantial measures to develop economic and technological cooperation and exchange and steadily carry them out. South-South cooperation is of great significance in this.

South-South cooperation is the important work of the nonaligned and developing countries to achieve economic self-reliance by cooperating with each other economically and technologically and is part of the struggle to establish a new international economic order. Only when they strengthen South-South cooperation can the nonaligned countries make a great advance in the struggle to build a self-reliant national economy and establish a new international economic order.

When the nonaligned countries are united politically and closely cooperate with each other economically and technologically, the might of the Nonaligned Movement will be stronger and its influence on the times and history will increase further.

It is our party's consistent policy to struggle actively to expand and develop the Nonaligned Movement. Together with the peoples of the nonaligned countries, our people will continue to adhere to the fundamental principles of the Nonaligned Movement and powerfully fight to realize the lofty ideas of this movement, upholding the banner of nonalignment.

Pyongyang Meeting

SK021130 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0921 GMT 2 Sep 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 2 (KCNA) -- A meeting was held in Pyongyang on September 1 to observe day of non-alignment. Hung on the platform of the meeting hall was a portrait of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Speaking at the meeting, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam said: Since its emergence in the arena of history the non-aligned movement has made a victorious advance along the orbit of independence. This gives us great pride and confidence.

The Non-aligned Movement should be further strengthened and developed in order to frustrate and check the imperialists' aggressive and belligerent moves, safeguard peace and security in the world, defend the sovereignty of non-aligned countries and achieve the prosperity of the nations, he noted, and stressed: To this end, it is important first of all for will the non-aligned countries to maintain the stand of independence, sovereignty and neutrality, the basic principle of the movement. He said no matter how the situation may be complex, the non-aligned countries should preserve to the end their intrinsic nature as an independent political force outside the bloc and maintain the purity of the movement.

Today when the imperialists are craftily maneuvering to fish in the troubled waters by creating alienation among the non-aligned countries and setting them against each other, it is all the more urgent to strengthen the unity of the movement. He stated: the non-aligned countries should direct particular attention to the economic problem and direct much efforts to the implementation of the action program of economic cooperation.

The non-aligned and developing countries should successfully carry out South-South cooperation on the principle of friendship and solidarity, equality and mutual benefit.

Noting that it is the consistent stand of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to struggle to develop in scope the Non-aligned Movement and constantly enhance its role, the speaker declared:

As in the past, so in the future, too, the government of our republic will strictly maintain the principle of the Non-aligned Movement, adhere to chajusong (independence) and actively struggle to strengthen and develop this movement.

K.C. Lalvunga, ambassador of the Republic of India, the chairman nation of the seventh summit conference of non-aligned states, spoke next.

Referring in detail to the seventh non-aligned summit held in New Delhi, he said: We deem it very satisfactory that at the summit conference the unity, solidarity and cohesion of the Non-aligned Movement was reaffirmed more powerfully.

The great leader of the Korean people President Kim Il-song consistently holds that an end must be brought to the arms race, complete disarmament be realised, military blocs be dismantled, foreign aggression forces and military bases be withdrawn from other countries and positive steps be taken to establish nuclear-free zones, peace zones in various parts of the world, and calls upon the non-aligned countries to jointly seek ways for realizing South-South cooperation, building an independent national economy and establishing a new international economic order. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea plays an active role in developing South-South cooperation. We express deep thanks to the Government of the DPRK for its positive efforts to strengthen the Non-aligned Movement under the leadership of the great President Kim Il-song.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs arranged a friendship gathering yesterday evening at the Ongnyu Restaurant on the Day of Non-alignment.

NODONG SINMUN URGES 'REVOLUTION IN SERVICE'

SK030755 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2132 GMT 2 Sep 84

[NODONG SINMUN 3 September editorial: "Let Us Guarantee More Convenient Living Conditions for People by Raising a Revolution in Service"]

[Text] Effecting a new turn in service work for the people is an urgent demand in raising the standard of living of our people to a higher stage today. Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, has noted: We should vigorously carry out a revolution in service, too. Only if we vigorously carry out a revolution in service can we provide more convenient living conditions for the people.

Our party always gives priority to the people's living. Our party makes everything serve this and takes consistent and deep interest in better guaranteeing their living convenience. Thus, all of our people are living a happy life without concern for food or clothing. But, as society develops and the people's standard of living rises, the demand for goods, for social food services, and for service facilities is increasing and the people demand more convenient living conditions.

Deeply understanding the people's demand, which is increasing endlessly, our party has put forth the policy of raising a revolution in light industry and service in order to more smoothly meet their demand. Also, our party has stressed again recently the need to vigorously accelerate a revolution in service as well as in light industry.

Our party's noble intention to provide excellent living conditions for our people and make them the happiest people in the world lies in the policy to accelerate a vigorous revolution in service.

Only when we establish the service network everywhere and achieve great innovation in the supply of goods, social food service, and service facilities by vigorously accelerating a revolution in service in conformity with the party's demand, can we make the streets and villages that seethe with a new order of labor life more abundant and can we develop our people's material, cultural, and (?aesthetic) life to a new and higher state.

What is important in raising a service revolution is to thoroughly accomplish the party's demands to renovate service work again for the people with a lofty spirit of serving the working popular masses. Our functionaries' honor and reward lie in self-sacrificingly serving the popular masses. Providing more convenient living conditions for the people is the most important and rewarding work for functionaries who regard service to the people as their basic duty.

The functionaries in the people's service sector and of various levels should raise a service revolution by devotedly struggling with a lofty party spirit, a working-class spirit, and a popular spirit thereby sincerely accomplishing the party's intention to develop the people's living standard to a higher stage. The functionaries should map out active plans to raise a service revolution and put these plans into practice in a revolutionary fashion from the standpoint masters solving on their own the problems arising in the people's living.

Many things arise in raising a revolution in service. These things are: increasing the service network; consolidating its material and technological foundations; and building bases for raw materials. All of these demand that functionaries display the lofty sense of responsibility befitting masters and the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance.

The experiences of advance units in service work show that only if we make efforts can we find enough reserves. All functionaries should more firmly build raw materials bases -- bases to do their own processing -- with the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, establish more big or small shops, restaurants, soft drink shops, and service facilities of various kinds everywhere for the convenience of the people's living, and organize well the operation of these facilities.

Our party demands that we endlessly improve the organization and method of service on the principle of guaranteeing to the maximum the living convenience of the people. Improving the organization and method of service is one of the important factors in raising a revolution in service.

In the services sector, various forms and methods of services, including morning service, evening service, tour service, delivery service, mobile sales, and sales (?of small lots), should be extensively applied in conformity with the demand of the people's lifestyle, and the kinds of services should be drastically increased so that services for the people can be carried out responsibly, in detail.

The ordering system is a people-oriented system of merchandise distribution that can supply consumer goods to all workers in a planned and fair manner. Commercial functionaries should properly set up the merchandise distribution system through order-taking; and should responsibly conduct research on the demand for merchandise, the allocation and distribution of merchandise; and should meet the demand for merchandise better by extensively organizing self-processing and strengthening relations with the home work teams and home service workers. In conformity with the demand of the service revolution, modern commercial facilities and equipment should be made available, and the forms and methods of merchandise display should be improved constantly. Also, the facilities for social food services, including restaurants and soft drink stores, should be drastically increased and operated well, and service work should be actively improved.

With the improvement of our people's living standard, the demand for quality food and services is enhanced. In the service sector, the technology and skill standards of functionaries should be further enhanced, and food processing should be specialized, scientized, and modernized to enhance the quality of foods and services one stage higher.

The service revolution can be successfully realized only through satisfactory supply work. The functionaries in relevant sectors should supply, in a normal way, the raw materials necessary for social food services and other services to meet all needs, and should provide various conditions sufficiently so that service activities can be conducted actively.

As the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated, service-mindedness is an important trait that service functionaries must have. Without service-mindedness, one cannot do service work properly. All service functionaries should have self-awareness and a sense of honor at being the people's faithful servant who take responsible care of the people's lives, and should work, devoting their all.

The party organizations in this sector should inform the service functionaries well of the party's policy and demand for effecting a service revolution and strengthen indoctrination work so that they can sincerely guarantee services for the people's lives in a manner suitable to the people's faithful servants and can always serve the customers with kindness and good manners.

CONSTRUCTION OF NAMPO LOCK GATE PROGRESSES

OW031003 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0800 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Pyongyang September 3(KCNA) -- The construction of the lock gate, a grand monumental edifice, is progressing apace in the sea off Nampo on the west coast of Korea.

It is a gigantic project rare to be seen in the world for building a dam totally blocking the eight kilometre long estuary of the Taedong River and building several locks, sluices, wharfs, waterbreaks, and other structures.

Soldiers of the Korean People's Army and builders in charge of the lock gate construction successfully completed the construction of the cofferdam extending more than 2,000 metres, the main part of the lock project, in less than two years since the first structure was installed in April, 1982.

Under the wise guidance of dear Comrade Kim Chong-il who is successfully carrying into practice the far-reaching plan of grand nature-remaking of the great leader President Kim Il-song, the soldiers and builders there set themselves the target to complete in a few years the vast project which would take scores of years at ordinary pace and are intensifying the speed campaign.

After completion of the cofferdam project, they pumped out the water inside it and launched into lock construction. They had carried out more than 70 percent of concrete tamping of the wall of lock No. 1 and started the construction of the walls of locks Nos. 2 and 3. Surmounting the unfavorable conditions of increasing depth of water, they have carried out 4,400 metres of earth dam building and assembled prefab parts in a 4,600 metre section and floated eight large box-shape prefab parts on the sea.

HUNGER STRIKE STARTED TO OPPOSE CHON VISIT

OW030753 Tokyo KYODO in English 0737 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 3 KYODO -- Thirty South Koreans, including dissident intellectuals and Christian activists, started a hunger strike Monday in protest of President Chon Tu-hwan's upcoming visit to Japan, denouncing the first official trip to Tokyo by a South Korean head of state as "antinational." In a statement, they voiced concern that Chon's Tokyo visit may open the way for Japan's new invasion of Korea, Japan's colony from 1910 to 1945.

The hunger strikers demanded boycotting Japanese products in the statement signed by 77 Christian ministers, Roman Catholic priests, writers and others opposing to the Chon government. They included civil leader Ham Sok-hon and Rev. Mun Ik-hwan.

The protest movement, under way at the National Council of Christian Churches, coincided with hunger strikes being staged by members of anti-Seoul Korean groups in Japan at several places in the country. Chon is scheduled to leave for Tokyo Thursday for a three-day state visit.

YONHAP VIEWS ISSUES HAMPERING TIES WITH JAPAN

SK010141 Seoul YONHAP in English 0111 GMT 1 Sep 84

[By Kim Tae-shik]

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 1 (YONHAP) -- A number of thorny issues have kept Korea and Japan from maintaining smooth relations in the four decades since Korea was liberated from the colonial rule of the island state in 1945. Of the issues involving the two Asian neighbors, Japan's territorial claim on the Korean island of Tokto is one of the most irritating for Korea.

The Tokto issue emerged as a major diplomatic row in 1952 when the first Korean president, Syngman Rhee, proclaimed Korea's sovereignty of the reef island, 90 km southeast of Ullung island. President Rhee proclaimed the so-called "peace line," which included Tokto in Korean territory.

The Japanese Government, reacting sensitively to Seoul's proclamation, claimed that Tokto was Japan's island and protested against the proclamation of any peace line. In June 1953, Japanese patrol boats forced six Korean fishermen to withdraw from the island and proceeded to put up a signboard which said that Tokto was Japanese.

In July of that year, Korean warships fired warning shots at a Japanese vessel belonging to the Maritime Safety Agency in the waters off Tokto. In May of the following year, Korea deployed 20 civil defense guards on the island and decided to send troops in September.

Although there has been no armed conflict between Korea and Japan over Tokto, Japan has incessantly irritated the Korean people by claiming their sovereignty there. Besides the Tokto issue, Japan repatriated 88,000-odd Koreans residing in its territory to North Korea, stirring up anti-Japanese sentiment here that resulted in protests and condemnation. Despite all-out efforts by South Korea to deter the repatriation, the Japan-based Koreans were shipped to North Korea in 54 repatriation moves from 1959 to 1967. Even after the Tokyo-Pyongyang agreement regarding repatriation expired in 1967, 1,000 more Koreans were sent to North Korea, including 30 people very recently.

The other issues which have led to "uncomfortable" Korean-Japanese relations include the alleged kidnapping of former Korean opposition party presidential candidate Kim Tae-chung from Tokyo to Seoul in 1973, the assassination of the Korean first lady by a Korean resident in Japan and the recent "textbook distortion" in which Japan glossed over the past atrocity inflicted on Koreans.

Bilateral relations were strained in 1973 when Kim Tae-chung, who had run for the Korean presidency in 1971, was kidnapped from a Tokyo hotel and taken to his home in Seoul, allegedly by armed South Koreans. Japan claimed that the Korean Government was behind the incident and that it was an obvious infringement of Japan's sovereignty. The incident was settled when the Korean Government dispatched then Prime Minister Kim Chong-pil to Tokyo, who delivered the letter from President Pak Chung-hui to Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka.

But the issue which brought about a near catastrophe in bilateral relations occurred in 1974 when Mu Se-kwang, a Korean residing in Japan, made an attempt on President Pak's life but killed First Lady Yuk Yong-su instead. Mu, who was controlled by Chochongnyon, a pro-Pyongyang Korean residents' organization in Japan, flew into Korea bearing a Japanese passport and attempted to kill the president during a memorial ceremony for Liberation Day at the national theater in Seoul on Aug. 15. It was learned later that there was a Japanese conspirator behind the incident.

Korea demanded that Japan thoroughly investigate the incident and take measures to restrict the terroristic activities of Chochongnyon, but the Tokyo government showed a lukewarm attitude, saying that Mu was not a Japanese but a Korean resident. The Korean Government acrimoniously blamed the Tokyo government and threatened to sever diplomatic ties unless Japan made a formal apology over the incident and took proper steps to control Chochongnyon activities.

Relenting to Seoul's die-hard attitude, Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka dispatched a special emissary to Seoul on Sept. 19 of the same year who delivered a letter in which the Japanese leader apologized to Korea and promised to control the anti-Seoul activities of Chochongnyon.

Most recently, Japan stirred up the anti-Japanese sentiments among Koreans by distorting historic accounts involving the two countries. In 1982, Japanese authorities justified the colonial rule of Korea and whitewashed atrocities Japan committed then while screening the 1983 editions of various school textbooks. The Japanese Government promised to correct the distorted textbooks, but as of today, they have not been fully amended.

With the state visit of Korean President Chon Tu-hwan to Japan next week, the Korean people are looking forward to seeing past "unpleasant" relations give way to a real friendship, based on mutual respect and common prosperity, in the days ahead.

JAPANESE ROLE IN STABILIZATION DISCUSSED

SK021343 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 30 Aug 84 p 2

[Editorial: "The Requisite for the Stabilization of the Korean Peninsula -- The Role of Japan for the Establishment of a New Partnership Between the ROK and Japan"]

[Text] The role of neighboring countries in the maintenance of stability on the Korean peninsula is very important, and this is especially true of Japan. With former Prime Minister Sato's visit to the United States in 1969, stability on the Korean peninsula began to be recognized as "essential" to the security of Japan. Such a position by Japan toward the Korean peninsula, which was manifested in the Nixon-Sato statement, was proclaimed "important" again in 1978 in the Miki-Carter talks. It was reconfirmed during Prime Minister Nakasone's visit to Seoul. Therefore, we can say that the two countries practically share a common view of the situation on the Korean peninsula.

Such a position is specifically noted in Item 5 of the ROK-Japan joint statement under the headline "Expectations of Japan's International Role." Furthermore, the situation in Northeast Asia has developed in such a way as to enlarge Japan's international role.

Among the noteworthy developments is the remarkable progress in Japan-Red China cooperation not only in economic fields but in security as well. This can be described as the most impressive development in the Asia situation since 1980. This is also taken to be an indication of the potential to form a strong regional order to realign the situation in Northeast Asia, including the issue of the Korean peninsula.

For this reason, the significance of President Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan is all the more conspicuous, and the Japanese leaders' view of the situation on the Korean peninsula has come under a new spotlight.

We will be watching to see how Japan will contribute to stabilizing the situation on the Korean peninsula as a partner on a new plane with the unveiling of an era of new ROK-Japan relations, and how it will carry out its practical role in support of such a contribution. We would hope that such a role will not be used in such a way as to only coordinate understanding between the two countries at a working level. Rather, we would hope that it will actively contribute to stability, prosperity, and peace in Northeast Asia and the whole of Asia.

What is of prime importance in such an endeavor is, no doubt, lasting stability on the Korean peninsula. Here we would like to warn against the risky idea of hasty improvement in Japan-North Korea relations following President Chon's visit to Japan-- which is being discussed among some Japanese people -- and against an overly optimistic appraisal of the situation on the Korean peninsula which could be formulated from an easy-going Japanese-type mood. Hence, Foreign Minister Abe's "Expectations of Changes in the Situation on the Korean Peninsula," which was made public in anticipation of the development of the ROK-Japan relations after President Chon's visit to Japan, well merits our attention.

In circumstances where there is no indication of any change in the North Korean communists' line of military adventurism against the South and when the North Korean communists totally reject a North-South dialogue, we would frankly hold that any action or consideration of a step that might adversely affect the situation on the Korean peninsula is far from desirable. Japan's contribution to changes in the situation on the Korean peninsula should be directed to stabilizing the situation under the initiative of the ROK. Needless to say, the scope of changes in the situation on the Korean peninsula should not go beyond the basic spirit of ROK-Japan relations.

On the threshold of a new start in ROK-Japan relations through President Chon's visit to Japan, we would hope that Japan's expectations of changes in the situation on the Korean peninsula will turn out to be a reflection of Japan's sincere contribution and effort for stability on the Korean peninsula.

CHON MAY RECEIVE PRC, USSR AMBASSADORS IN JAPAN

SK020150 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 2 Sep 84 p 3

[From the column "News Behind News"]

[Text] In connection with a function to be held during President Chon Tu-hwan's visit to Japan in which ambassadors from countries that have no diplomatic relations with our country, such as Communist China and the Soviet Union, might be invited, a Foreign Ministry official stressed that it had not been arranged by our own government's initiative.

Saying that it was the Japanese side that asked us whether we have any objection to inviting ambassadors from countries with which our country has not established diplomatic relations, the official at the Foreign Ministry explained that our government agreed because it could find no reasons to object to it.

Commenting on the fact that never before have any diplomats representing countries that had no diplomatic relations with our country been invited to meet our country's state leader during his visits to foreign countries, the official admitted: Clearly, our government is now more flexible in such matters than before. He was however, not optimistic about the prospects for such a meeting. He said: It remains to be seen whether or not they will accept the invitation.

GOVERNMENT RELEASES STATEMENT ON KAL TRAGEDY

SK010323 Seoul YONHAP in English 0311 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 1 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The following is the full text of a statement issued by the South Korean Government spokesman on the first anniversary of the Soviet destruction of KAL 007.

We are today marking the first anniversary of the shooting down by a Soviet jet fighter of a Korean Air Lines civil aircraft, taking the lives of all of the 269 passengers and crew aboard en route to Seoul from New York via Anchorage on September 1, 1983.

The Government of the Republic of Korea takes this opportunity to join all peace-loving peoples of the world once again in praying for the repose of the 269 victims and to extend the deepest condolences to the bereaved families.

As is well known, as the principal aggrieved party, the Republic of Korea, in close cooperation with the United States, Japan and other countries whose nationals also fell victims in the outrageous incident, has exerted every possible effort including a demand to the Soviets for compensation for their unlawful attack on the KAL plane.

In response to the international call for prevention of a recurrence of such a tragic incident, the government, together with other friendly countries vitally interested in the safety of civil aviation, called for an amendment to the International Civil Aviation Convention at the 25th session (extraordinary) of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) this year. As a result, we succeeded in reaffirming the existing rules of international law prohibiting the use of weapons against civil aircraft and in codifying the rules in the convention by unanimity of all those countries present at the session.

The Soviet shooting down of the KAL airliner has since been strongly condemned by the majority of the world community and international organizations. In particular, ICAO, through a series of thorough investigations and deliberations, officially made it clear that the Soviet allegations concerning the incident were groundless.

The Soviet Union has so far failed to discharge its obligations under international law including the compensation. Accordingly, we take this opportunity to urge the Soviet authorities once again to take appropriate measures to assume their responsibilities in all sincerity. We call upon them to take all necessary steps to ensure the safety of international civil aviation by preventing the recurrence of similar incidents, thereby serving to promote world peace and security.

Requests for Compensation Eyed

SK031301 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 31 Aug 84 p 2

[Editorial: "We Should See That Our Request for an Apology and Compensation Are Fulfilled -- Greeting the First Anniversary of the Downing of a Korea Air Lines Plane"]

[Text] We feel perplexed as we greet the first anniversary of the incident in which a Korea Air Lines plane was shot down, sacrificing the precious lives of 269 passengers. While expressing our condolences to the victims' families, we feel very sorry because we have failed to console the souls of those who were buried in the cold sea of Okhotsk.

Since the incident took place 1 year ago, we have failed to clear up the truth of the incident in which the Korea Air Lines plane was off course and to obtain an apology from the Soviet Union, much less compensation. Instead of showing repentance, the Soviet Union has tried to shirk responsibility for the incident onto us and the United States, babbling about an espionage flight. We are enraged by this.

Since the incident, the international community has denounced the Soviet Union through the United Nations and the International Civilian Aviation Organization [ICAO] and has strongly urged it to account for the incident and to make compensation. Through careful investigation at the scene of the incident, the ICAO has made it clear that there were no mechanical or operational defects with the Korea Air Lines plane. Nevertheless, the Soviet Union has tried to deceive mankind's conscience by preposterously alluding to an espionage mission. This is an attempt to commit another crime. The Soviet Union should understand that its barbarous act will never be justified or pardoned.

The incident involving the Korea Air Lines plane taught us a valuable lesson. When the incident occurred and in the course of dealing with the incident, we bitterly felt the callousness of international politics. We also realized that fostering national strength and acquiring the right to a voice in the international arena are an urgent national task.

One question to consider is whether or not a civilian plane from such a great power as the United States would have received the kind of violent attack that the KAL plane received. This question suggests that the people of a small and weak nation are destined to be victimized in a coldhearted international power game.

We can say that we could have prevented the incident if we had an alert system for the safe operation of passenger planes and if we had maintained an international cooperative system.

It is true that the incident involving the Korea Air Lines plane further intensified confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union in their endeavor to maintain power supremacy in the international political arena and retarded our policy toward the North -- a policy for improving relations with the communist bloc.

We are likely to become entangled in a collision between the great powers in the Far East where military confrontation between the superpowers has sharpened with the passage of time.

We are in the position of not being able to abandon our policy toward the North -- although it has been temporarily retarded -- in order not to be victimized by the confrontation of strength between the superpowers and in order to uniquely settle our pending diplomatic issues, such as a peaceful solution of the North-South question. In this context, we interpret the participation of our delegation at the Moscow meeting of the World Committee for the Compiling of Geographic Maps as significant.

However, we believe that the Korea Air Lines incident and our approach to the Soviet Union in accordance with our policy toward the North should be handled separately. These two issues do not contradict each other; they are supplementary.

Greeting the first anniversary of the Korea Air Lines incident, we urge the authorities concerned to double their efforts to force the Soviet Union to make an apology and to pay compensation, and to take measures to prevent the recurrence of similar incidents.

GOVERNMENT'S LUKEWARM USSR STANCE CRITICIZED

SK020410 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 2 Sep 84 p 3

[Article by political reporter Yim Tong-myong, from the column "Reporter's Memobook": "First Anniversary of the KAL Incident"]

[Text] On the occasion of the first anniversary of the shooting down of a Korea Air Lines [KAL] passenger plane by Soviet fighters, we have mixed feelings. When this incident happened last year, we were outraged by the Soviets' barbarous and inhuman act. We still vividly remember and value the passion of the patriotic citizens who, saying that the Soviet Union would not have done such an impudent and outrageous thing to us if we were a major power, pledged, with clenched fists, efforts toward making our country respected in the international community by nurturing national strength.

However, we now clearly sense that the KAL incident has lost much of its meaning with the passage of time. World media, which at the time of the incident showered the Soviet Union with denunciation and outrage for its barbarity, are now treating it as if it were a sensational matter, arguing whether the KAL plane was engaged in a spy mission or not. In connection with this incident, our government, at the time of the incident, strongly denounced the Soviets' barbarity in such international institutions as the UN General Assembly and other organizations, and exerted diplomatic efforts to make a total of 86 countries join the ranks of nations denouncing the Soviet Union. Also, our government demanded that the Soviet Union respond to our five conditions: that it apologize for what it had done; that it cooperate with us in investigating the real cause of the incident; that it punish those involved in the shooting down of the plane, that it promise not to repeat such an act in the future; and that it pay compensation for the victims. However, our government has not been successful in extracting even a single sincere promise from the Soviets.

Despite this, in the statement issued on the first anniversary of the KAL incident, the government treated denunciation of the Soviet barbarity by using the past tense forms of verbs and roundabout expressions with regard to the issue of compensation, saying: "Bearing in mind the Soviet Union's insincerity, we urge the Soviet authorities to take appropriate measures to assume their responsibilities in all sincerity." The government's basic intention to mark the anniversary of the incident in a quiet way is evident in various aspects.

Contrary to such an attitude by the government, some argued that countries should settle such matters between them just as individuals often do, trying to prove who is right and who is wrong, and that only in this way will countries respect each other. We cannot, however, afford to ignore some people's realistic point of view that we should steadily edge toward improving relations with the Soviet Union, if for no other reason than the fact that we should actively persuade the Soviet Union and other East European countries to participate in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul.

At present, the government is moving toward step-by-step promotion of relations with the Soviet Union, and the people can be said to be standing on the threshold between emotional and pragmatic attitudes with regard to relations with the Soviet Union.

Instead of unilaterally trying to pacify public sentiment in this way, the government should show wisdom in formulating policy toward the Soviet Union by reflecting public sentiment in policy decisions in such a way that it does not offend the public. The government should be more deliberate in this regard, especially because our government's Soviet policy should be based on our just demands and avoiding frustration with the Soviets, and because our policy should be effective in this regard.

The KAL incident is something that we can never and should never forget. The policy-makers in the government should look squarely at the reality that the people are merely refraining from voicing their will.

CHON URGES UTMOST EFFORT FOR STORM RELIEF

SK040905 Seoul YONHAP in English 0901 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 4 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan instructed government officials Tuesday to make the utmost effort to deal effectively with the aftermath of the recent storm as well as to establish fundamental and permanent measures to prevent future flooding. Stressing concerted cooperation among government ministries and agencies to relieve people from inconveniences triggered by the weekend storm, Chon ordered officials to make their first priority the restoration of people's normal lives as soon as possible.

"The Agriculture and Fisheries Ministry in particular should make every effort to minimize damage on agricultural products so that the nation could succeed in harvesting the estimated bumper crop for this year as originally planned," Chon said. The president issued his command after briefings with Seoul Mayor Yom Po-hyon and Vice Construction Minister Yi Kwan-yong on the national loss of life and property in the three-day storm. It is the worst downpour to lash South Korea since 1972, when 372 people were killed or missing throughout the nation.

The deluge, which began to hit Seoul and its vicinity Friday, claimed the lives of 114 people, according to the Central Anti-Calamity Headquarters. The headquarters said that the storm also left 47 missing and more than 113,000 homeless. Chon instructed authorities concerned to pay special attention to those who were left without homes or incurred property damage so that they can celebrate the traditional festive day of "Chusok," which falls on Sept. 10. In addition, he called for special efforts to prevent waterborne diseases from spreading over storm-hit areas.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE WITH CENTRAL AFRICA ISSUED

SK010155 Seoul YONHAP in English 0143 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Seoul, Sept. 1 (YONHAP) -- South Korea and Central Africa have agreed to make an effort to establish a bilateral committee to promote cooperation between the two countries. In a joint communique issued Friday by foreign ministers of the two countries, South Korea also agreed to dispatch an agricultural survey team to the African nation to develop agriculture there.

In the communique, Korean Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong and Clement Michel-Pascal Nga Gnii-Voueto, Central Africa's minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, said that they shared the view that international terrorism should not be tolerated and that all peace-loving countries should make common efforts to eradicate it.

The joint document expressed the Central African foreign minister's hope that the South Korean Government's efforts toward peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula be continued.

Nga Gnii-voue to also expressed his hope in the statement that South Korea could be admitted to the United Nations. The Central African visitor left Seoul Friday, winding up a five-day stay here, during which he paid courtesy calls on Korean President Chon Tu-hwan and Prime Minister Chin Ui-Chong and had talks with Foreign Minister Yi.

INDONESIAN OIL OFFICIAL MEETS CHON TU-HWAN

SK310602 Seoul YONHAP in English 0741 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Text] Seoul, Aug 30 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan received Abdul Rachman Ramly, the visiting president of the Indonesian state-run oil corporation Pertamina, at Chongwadae Thursday afternoon. Ramly, who arrived in Seoul Aug 26, attended a ceremony at the southern port city of Yosu Aug 27 to welcome the first shipment of underwater crude oil drilled off Madura, Indonesia in a joint venture involving Korea's Kodeco Energy and Pertamina. He later met with Korean Government leaders to exchange views on the promotion of Korean-Indonesian cooperation in the field of resource development. Ramly is scheduled to leave here later in the day, winding up his five-day visit.

CHON RECEIVES NEWLY APPOINTED NAVY COMMANDERS

SK040140 Seoul YONHAP in English 0132 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Text] Seoul, Sept 4 (YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan received newly-appointed top Navy commanders at the presidential residence Chongwadae Tuesday.

Chon pinned insignia on the new Chief of Naval Operations, Adm Choe Sang-hwa, the Second Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Vice Adm Song Pyong-mun, and Vice Adm Kim Chong-ho, who was promoted. After the brief ceremony, Chon also met with Peruvian Army Inspector-General German Ruiz Figaeroa and decorated him with the Order of National Defense Merit, Tongil Medal.

CHIN UI-CHONG DISCUSSES UPCOMING ELECTIONS

SK012353 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 2 Sep 84 p 4

[From the column "Out and About"]

[Text] Amid rampant speculation on his political future, Prime Minister Chin Ui-chong hinted yesterday that he will not run in the next general elections. Chin, concurrently a National Assembly member of the ruling Democratic Justice Party, is from the Chongup-Kochang district in Chollanam-do.

"I haven't made up my mind yet, but I am well aware of complaints by opposition parties that it is unfair for a prime minister to run by retaining the premiership," he told reporters. This indicated that there still is a possibility that he would become an indirectly elected National Assembly member under the proportional representation system.

Asked to comment on rumors that a ranking police officer would be the DJP candidate from the Chongup-Kochang district, if Chin does not run, the premier said, "I think he is one of the strong candidates."

REAGAN'S 'ODIOUS JOKING' CONDEMNED AT MEETING

BK311250 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1112 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 31 -- A 500-strong meeting condemning Reagan's nuclear-war crusade and recent stupid remark on bombing the Soviet Union was held at the Kampuchea-USSR friendship college in Phnom Penh on Thursday.

The main speaker was Education Minister Pen Navouth who condemned Reagan's nuclear-war crusade, and odious joking. He pointed out that peace- and justice-loving people over the world had realized the true nature of the U.S. warmongers and highly appreciated the peace policy of the Soviet Union.

Representatives of the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defence of Kampuchean Fatherland and the Kampuchea-USSR Friendship Association, and Counsellor to the Soviet Embassy Achot Melik-Chakhnazarov and Soviet teachers and experts.
[sentence as received]

THAI PROVOCATIONS BATTLES WITH 'BANDITS' CITED

BK310514 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Excerpts] The reactionary Thai rulers have increasingly instigated provocations against us by sending aircraft -- L-19's and UH-1's -- to violate our airspace 2-3 km inside our territory on 30 occasions in Ampil, Anlung Veng, Malai, and Nimit. Particularly between 17 and 23 August, Thai aircraft violated our airspace on 10 occasions. At sea, Thai trawlers and ships conducted reconnaissance activities and violated our territorial waters on 394 occasions 7-25 nautical miles off Kaoh Kong, Kaoh Tang, and Poulo Wai Islands.

At the same time, the Pol Pot bandits and Sereika elements hiding along the border in Thai territory crossed over to cause trouble, rob our people, and destroy our communications lines. However, all of their attempts were dealt heavy blows by the Revolutionary Armed Forces and Vietnamese volunteers, who are very vigilant. According to still incomplete statistics, during the past 2 weeks, that is, from 10 to 23 August, our Armed Forces in all areas killed or wounded 150 bandits of all stripes; captured 35 others; and seized 64 assorted guns, [words indistinct], 15 hand grenades, 12 mines, 1 71-watt field radio, 640 kg of rice, and a large quantity of war materiel. There were many successful combats, such as the one carried out by "Khar" Brigade, which is good at preparing measures to sweep up enemies. In a space of only 10 days, the "Khar" Brigade killed 26 bandits attempting to commit crimes against our people. It also seized many guns and a large quantity of ammunition. On 18 August, Battalion 5 ambushed a group of enemies west of Rovieng, killing 9 enemy elements and seizing 8 guns, and 800 rounds of ammunition.

Another outstanding feat was made by the militiamen of Yor commune in Thpong District [Kompong Speu Province], who launched a sweeping operation against bandits hiding deep in the jungle in an attempt to rob and commit crimes against our people. Our militiamen killed a bandit, wounded two others, and seized all weapons.

HENG SAMRIN GREET'S MPRP'S BATMONH ON ELECTION

BK311239 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1126 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK August 31 -- Heng Samrin, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea and president of the State Council, has extended his warmest congratulations to Jambyn Batmonh on his election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party.

The message says: "I am fully confident that under your leadership based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism, the fraternal people of Mongolia will bring in still greater successes in implementing the noble tasks of building a socialist Mongolia adopted by the 18th Congress of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, thus making an active contribution to the consolidation of the socialist community and to peace and the well-being of all nations over the world." "May the ties of the fraternal friendship, solidarity, cooperation between our two parties and peoples be further developed and strengthened," the message continues.

The Kampuchean leader also wished its Mongolian counterpart the best health and more successes in his mission.

ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM MPR

BK010704 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Recently, Comrade Chea Sim, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the PRK National Assembly, received a message of thanks from Comrade Daniagiyn Altangerel, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Great Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic. The message, among other things, says:

Like you, I am convinced that the fraternal friendship and the militant solidarity between our two countries and people will further develop and be strengthened on the basis of proletarian internationalism. I would like to express to you and the fraternal Kampuchean people best wishes and new and greater successes in implementing the resolutions of the Fourth KPRP Congress.

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON FLOOD, DROUGHT LOSSES

BK310704 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0441 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Phnom Penh, 31 Aug (SPK) -- Yesterday, Kong Samol, Kampuchean minister of agriculture, held a press conference in Phnom Penh on losses of agricultural products in Kampuchea due to natural disasters. Minister Kong Samol emphasized to local and foreign reporters and the representatives of international humanitarian organizations that:

Recent flooding has caused losses over 200,000 hectares of rice and 36,000 hectares of subsidiary crops. Ten or twelve people died in the flooding in addition to about 10,000 head of cattle and a large number of fowl. Ten thousand families have suffered from famine and 2,000 others are homeless. Furthermore, due to a shortage of rain this year, Kampuchea cultivated only 605,560 hectares of 1,700,000 hectares of the plan and 24,300 hectares were destroyed by drought.

After recalling urgent measures taken by the party and the state to help the people recover from these natural disasters, Minister Kong Samol appealed to fraternal socialist countries, international humanitarian organizations, and other peoples in the world to provide aid in foodstuffs and medicines to the Kampuchean people.

VODK SAYS VIETNAM USES LAO-THAI BORDER DISPUTE

BK010358 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Station commentary: "Who Creates and Fosters the Lao-Thai Border Dispute?"]

[Text] The international community and all countries in the region are now closely following developments in the Thai-Lao border dispute. This dispute began in mid-April when Lao troops attacked and captured three Thai hamlets which were later taken back by Thai border guards. Since then, both the Vientiane puppets and their Hanoi bosses have launched a noisy chorus to distort the facts surrounding the incident, and to slander Thailand. Moreover, the Vientiane puppets and their Vietnamese bosses have conducted armed provocations by firing artillery barrages into Thai territory and sending troops to launch frequent attacks against Thai border guards, thus maintaining a constantly tense situation along the Thai border.

It is generally thought that this border dispute is just a small matter. But if this is so, why is it still unsettled after nearly 5 months? International observers say this is because of interference from the Hanoi authorities.

It is no secret that today's Vientiane puppets are completely under Vietnam's colonialist heel. All military and state affairs -- including administrative, security, and other sectors, from the top to the grassroots, commune, and village levels -- are under the command, control, management, and operation of the Vietnamese. The Vientiane puppets are indeed merely puppets, acting and reciting the dictates of the Vietnamese. They have no right or power whatsoever to run the affairs of Laos in the interests of the Lao people and nation. The border dispute is of the same mold. If Vietnam does not want it to be settled, the Vientiane puppets have no right to settle it. Therefore, despite all the Thais' efforts to find a peaceful solution to this dispute and despite the fact that they have already invited the Vientiane puppets to the negotiating table in Bangkok twice to solve it the dispute remains unsettled. Why? Because the Lao side came to Bangkok only to recite by rote, like a parrot, what Vietnam told it to say. It came to Bangkok for propaganda purposes, on orders from Vietnam. The Vientiane puppets have no right or power to make any decision toward the settlement of the dispute.

In fact, this Lao-Thai border dispute has been instigated and created by the Hanoi authorities. It is these Hanoi authorities who have been fostering the dispute for a long time so that they can use it as a pretext to accuse and slander Thailand of various imaginable offenses, to pressure Thailand, and to cause an endless internal turmoil inside Thailand.

Vietnam's overall objective is to cause permanently tense and inflammable situation in the Thai border areas with both Kampuchea and Laos. On the Kampuchean side, Vietnam successively dispatched troops to attack and intrude into Thai territory, incessantly causing troubles and bloodshed to the innocent Thai border inhabitants. At the same time, Vietnam has ordered its running dog, the Phnom Penh puppets, to slander Thailand by accusing it of committing various imaginable crimes. On the border with Laos, Vietnam creates the border dispute to be used as grounds for aggression against Thailand and for a slanderous propaganda campaign against it. Vietnam's objective is to threaten Thailand along the border to bring pressure to bear on it, forcing it not to oppose Vietnamese aggression, and to try to coerce Thailand into accepting its aggression in Kampuchea as a fait accompli.

However, the Thai Government and people are not cowed by Vietnam's threats. The Thai Government has stated repeatedly that it wants to be friendly with all neighboring countries, based on the principles of noninterference, nonaggression, and respect for the right of the people of each country to decide their own destiny. The Thai Government, nevertheless, reserves the right to defend its territorial integrity, that is, the right to counterattack against aggressors to safeguard its territory. This is the inviolable right of the Thai Government and people as well as that of the governments and people of all independent and sovereign countries around the world. Therefore, although the Hanoi authorities have created trouble on both the eastern and northeastern Thai borders, they can in no way force Thailand into accepting their aggression in Kampuchea as a fait accompli. On the contrary, they have become more exposed and odiously denounced as the provocator, attacker, and aggressor against other people in the region. They can only become more isolated.

So long as Vietnam continues to refuse to settle the dispute, all peace- and justice-loving countries around the world which side with the Thai people and government in the struggle to safeguard their territorial integrity will further voice their denunciation and condemnation of Vietnam, further chastising and isolating both the Hanoi authorities and Vientiane puppets in the international arena.

VODK COMMENTS ON SIHANOUK'S SCANDANAVIAN VISIT

BK310632 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 30 Aug 84

[Station commentary: "Rallying International Support for the Kampuchean People's Struggle Is a Contribution to the Struggle Against the Vietnamese Aggressors and for the Survival of the Kampuchean Nation and Race"]

[Text] Beginning in the middle of August 1984, Samdech Nordom Sihanouk, president of Democratic Kampuchea, paid a private visit to Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. During his stay in these three countries, the samdech president of Democratic Kampuchea informed leaders of these countries about the development of our Kampuchean people's struggle against the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors and the good cooperation among the three Kampuchean groups that form the CGDK. At the same time, the samdech exposed the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy's barbarous, criminal acts against the Kampuchean people and its Vietnamization policy against Kampuchea. The samdech said: Vietnam has sent hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese civilians to settle in Kampuchea with an aim of turning Kampuchea into a part of Vietnam in accordance with its policy of aggression, expansion, and genocide against Kampuchea. Only by putting pressure on Vietnam from all sides in order to force it to withdraw all aggressor troops from Kampuchea can independence and peace be restored to Kampuchea. The samdech added: The Kampuchean people and the CGDK pledge to unite and fight resolutely against the Vietnamese aggressors until they are compelled to take part in a peaceful resolution of the Kampuchean problem through political means in accordance with the UN resolutions. The samdech expressed his confidence that the Kampuchean people's just struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors will certainly be crowned with final victory.

The leaders of the three countries that the samdech visited have voiced their opposition to the Vietnamese aggression in Kampuchea and their support for the UN resolutions which demand that the Le Duan Vietnamese aggressors withdraw all of their aggressors troops from Kampuchea. They also voiced their continued support for the CGDK at the coming UN General Assembly.

Therefore, the visit to these three friendly countries by the samdech president of Democratic Kampuchea constitutes a new contribution to the Kampuchean people's struggle against the Le Duan enemy aggressors and race exterminators and for the defense of the Kampuchean nation and race. The samdech's visit has enabled these three friendly countries and the world community to understand further the situation of the Kampuchean people's just struggle against the Vietnamese aggression and for an independent, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned Kampuchea. They have also become well aware of the true nature of the war of aggression and genocide against the Kampuchean race being waged by the Le Duan Vietnamese enemy aggressors in Kampuchea. Through this visit, the world community has more sympathy for and has given more active support to the just struggle waged by the Kampuchean people and the CGDK. Thus, the samdech's private visit to these three friendly countries contributes to rallying international support for our Kampuchean people's just struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors and for the defence of our nation and race. This effort to rally international support for the Kampuchean people's national liberation struggle totally accords with the aspirations of our Kampuchean nation and people. This activity is a great encouragement to our Kampuchean people and all patriotic forces that are fighting against the Vietnamese aggressors on the battlefield. This will encourage them to fight even more vigorously against the Vietnamese aggressors.

Our Kampuchean people throughout the country are firmly convinced that so long as we jointly fight against the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors both on the battlefield and in the international arena, we will certainly score the final victory.

VODK: SAMPHAN GREETES MALAYSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

BK020707 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 1 Sep 84

[DK Vice President in Charge of Foreign Affairs Khieu Samphan's 30 August message of greetings to Malaysian Foreign Minister Tengku Ahmad Rithauddeen]

[Text] To His Excellency Tengku Agmad Rithauddeen, minister of foreign affairs of Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur:

Your Excellency: On the occasion of Malaysia's national day, I am highly honored and glad to extend to you a message of warm congratulations and greetings and wish you the best of health, happiness, and success in your noble mission. May Malaysia and the Malaysian people enjoy prosperity forever and have more success in national development and in the noble effort to safeguard and maintain peace, stability, and security in Southeast Asian and the world.

I take this opportunity to once again express to the Government and people of Malaysia, an important member of ASEAN, and to you, personally, an old friend of Democratic Kampuchea, my most profound gratitude for your precious and consistent assistance and support for the righteous and just cause of the Kampuchean people and CGDK struggling for national survival. I would like to express my confidence that the traditional bonds of friendship and cooperation that have linked our two countries and people for a long, long time in the common ideal the independence, peace, neutrality, and nonalignment will further develop steadily.

Please, Your Excellency, accept my highest regards. Democratic Kampuchea,
30 August 1984

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, vice chairman of Democratic Kampuchea in charge of foreign affairs.

REPORTAGE OF THAI SHELLING OF BORDER AREA

BK010538 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] According to local news reports from Paklai District, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops occupying the three Lao villages in Sayaboury Province have continued to commit crimes against the people in the vicinities of the villages. On the night of 25 August and the following morning, they fired at Phou Houat, Ban Det, and nearby areas some 1 to 7 km inside Lao territory with more than 800 rounds of 105-mm and 155-mm artillery. Later, on the morning of 29 August, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops stationed in Bo Bia also fired for 1 hour at the three villages in Lao territory with 105-mm and 155-mm artillery. As a result, a number of the Lao people's property and crops were damaged.

In southern Vientiane Municipality, on the morning of 29 August, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops stationed in an area opposite Don Sangkhi islet of Laos also fired dozens of rounds of mortars at Lao residents while they were fishing in Laos' territorial waters. A few days earlier, the reactionary troops moved to an area in front of the islet.

These incidents have shown the dark schemes of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries to carry out armed provocations against the LPDR with the intention of further worsening the situation along the Lao-Thai border in service of the Beijing big-nation expansionist and hegemonist schemes.

Further on Shelling

BK041328 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1100 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Text] According to local news reports from Paklai District, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries occupying the three Lao villages in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province, have continued to create a tense situation in the areas by conducting provocations, encroaching upon the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Laos, and committing more crimes against the Lao people. At 1800 on 1 September, the Thai ultrarightist reactionary troops in the three villages fiercely fired at areas in the vicinity of the villages with 105-mm artillery and heavy machineguns of various types. Later on the same day, they shelled the same areas again, causing damage to a number of the people's property and crops.

Further reports indicated that at present the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries are accelerating the dispatch of rangers in civilian clothes to be stationed in houses in the three villages 24 hours a day. These rangers have been sternly ordered to indiscriminately capture children of the Lao people. They have also been ordered to adjust themselves to become Lao villagers while resorting to psychological warfare to carry out deceitful propaganda persuading residents of the three villages to attend training courses in Uttaradit Province of Thailand.

These as well as the previous acts of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have shown their dark schemes to oppose the LPDR in accordance with the instruction of the Beijing big-nation expansionists-hegemonists. The ultrarightist reactionaries have tried every possible way and means to create a tense situation in the three villages, thus running counter to the aspirations of the two people of Laos and Thailand who have always wanted to see neighborly, friendly relations become normal and tranquil.

REPORTAGE ON SKIRMISHES IN BORDER AREAS WITH LAOS

Lao Troops Attack Outpost

BK010230 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Laotian troops slipped across the border and attacked a Thai Army outpost in one of the three disputed villages in Uttaradit Province on Thursday morning, informed military sources disclosed yesterday. The sources said that an unspecified number of Laotian troops came about 250 metres close to Base 650 in Ban Mai, Ban Khok Sub-district, and launched an attack with rocket-propelled grenades and small-arms fire at around 8 a.m.

The cavalry unit at the base returned the fire and sought supporting groundfire from a nearby outpost. The fighting lasted about 45 minutes after which the intruders retreated across the border. The sources said that no Thai soldiers were killed or wounded in the skirmish. Laotian casualties were not known.

The sources added that Thai security forces, combing the scene of an earlier skirmish last Sunday in which one Thai soldier was killed, found several items believed to have been left behind by Laotian troops. The items included half a pound of TNT, four tail sections of 82-mm mortar shells and a pair of pincers.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said yesterday that the Thai border technical team had completed its survey to mark the boundary in the disputed border area. He said that the team had already returned to Bangkok but had yet to report its findings to him.

Reacting to a report that Laos had asked the United Nations to persuade Thailand to resume the stalled border talks. ACM Sitthi said Thailand saw no need for the UN to mediate in this issue.

Lao Incursion 1-2 Sep

BK030312 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Uttaradit -- Two Border Patrol policemen were killed and at least three wounded following a three-hour battle with intruding Laotian troops at one of the three disputed border villages on Saturday night. Informed military sources said an unknown number of Laotian troops slipped across the border into Ban Mai, Ban Khok Sub-district and launched a fierce attack on two border outposts manned by crack paratroopers from Hua Hin.

The sources said the Laotians used rockets and rocket-propelled grenades in the attack which lasted three hours before it was repulsed with the aid of artillery support from a nearby firebase. However, they added that the Laotians were still poised for a renewed assault on the two outposts.

Laotian casualties were not known.

Yesterday's flareup was the latest in a series of attacks by Laotian forces following the collapse of negotiations in Bangkok last month to settle the dispute over the three border villages -- Ban Mai, Ban Savang and Ban Kang in Ban Khok Sub-district.

One Thai soldier died and nine others were wounded in a Laotian attack in Ban Mai recently. An earlier attack on August 18 also killed another Thai trooper. Another attack on Ban Mai occurred on Thursday morning but there were no casualties on the Thai side.

Lao Troops Claim Village

BK030844 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 3 Sep 84 pp 1, 3

[Text] At 1700 on 1 September a company of Lao soldiers from (Vangtao) village in Champassak Province, Laos, crossed the border into Ban Thung Nong Wua, Tambon Chong Mek, Phibun Mangsahan District, Ubon Ratchathani Province, which is about 500 meters from the border. They told Sali Chotrat, chief of Tambon Chong Mek, and villager Banchong Naibun, who were guarding their farms, that the area where Ban Thung Nong Wua is situated belonged to Laos and that villagers are allowed to earn a living in the village but do not own the land. They instructed the two to inform Thai authorities not to intrude into the village. They left after telling the two that they would be back.

Informed of the incident, **Kiattisak** Tungkhamani, a Phibun Mangsahan district officer and a party went to Ban Thung Nong Wua and evacuated the women and children of 41 families in the village to Ban Lao Inpaeng, about 2 km away. Border Patrol Police from the 404th Border Monitoring Unit later joined men in the village to patrol the village around the clock to prevent new intrusions from Laos.

At 1600 on 2 September, the Border Patrol Police persuaded those who had evacuated to Ban Lao Inpaeng to return because the situation had returned to normal. Most of the evacuees, however, refused to return for fear of a repeat of the previous incident.

The Phibun Mangsahan District officer said he did not know the reason for the Lao intrusion and claim that the village belonged to Laos because the map shows clearly that the village is in Thai territory.

Troop Movement Observed

BK010754 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 31 Aug 84 pp 1, 12

[Excerpt] According to a police source movements in Laos, in the vicinity opposite the three disputed villages in Uttaradit Province, cause more concern than other Lao areas. The source said the movements involved 5 battalions -- 3 Lao and 2 Vietnamese -- and 80 tanks camouflaged in Haihin village. There were also 40 MIG-21 aircraft at Wattai Airport.

The source said it is evident that Laos intends to soon capture the three disputed villages, in light of observed troop and weapons movements. Laos has also tried to arouse its people by telling them that Thailand had declared itself to be an enemy of Laos. Moreover, it has prohibited its people from any contact, including trade, with Thais in Loiei.

Foreign Ministry Statement

BK040302 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Thai Foreign Ministry statement -- date not given]

[Text] At 1430 on 1 September, LPDR soldiers fired RPG rounds at the inspection point manned by the 3301/1 Cavalry Squad about 1 km north of Ban Savang, resulting in a 20-minute clash.

At 1845 LPDR soldiers used recoilless rifles, RPG's, mortars, machineguns, and small arms to fire into Thai territory at three villages in Uttaradit Province, resulting in a 3-hour clash in which two Thai soldiers -- Privates Toep Siwilat and Wichai Chanthasing -- were killed and three others -- Sergeant Somkhit Duangsaenyo and Privates Samran Chichong and Wichai Sisattaya -- injured.

These Lao actions are regarded as completely unreasonable acts of deliberate provocation and contradict the Lao claim that it sincerely seeks peaceful settlement to the dispute over the three villages, at a time when Thailand stated on 23 August that it was sending technical officials to survey the area and verify the facts regarding the true location of the borderline in order to peacefully resolve the problem on the basis of what is right and of justice in the interest of fraternal Thai-Lao relations. Moreover, the Thai Government also appealed to Laos not to create an armed incident in the three villages while its officials were conducting a survey of the area.

Similar Lao actions have occurred many times and Thailand has exercised restraint in order to prevent an escalation of the dispute. Thailand informed the Lao ambassador to Thailand and Souban Salitthilat, head of the Lao delegation and Lao vice foreign minister, several times that Thailand wanted to quickly and peacefully bring an end to the dispute over the three villages and asked Laos to refrain from armed provocations that would increase tension and losses to both sides. However, the Lao side has not responded to Thailand's proposal, but has continued armed provocations, demonstrating beyond any doubt that Laos does not have sincere desire to peacefully resolve the dispute over the three villages. Just the opposite -- Laos wants to prolong the dispute in the hope of escalating the situation to lead to confrontation between Thai and Lao soldiers.

In any event the Thai Government and people, mindful of friendship and fraternal relations with the Lao people, reaffirm their desire to peacefully and quickly resolve the dispute. They will exercise utmost restraint against Lao provocations and appeal once again for Laos to immediately stop armed provocations. It is necessary for the Thai Government to reserve its legitimate right to take every action to retaliate against threats that cause damage to Thai lives and property.

Athit Comments

BK040316 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Undated statement by Thai Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek -- recorded]

[Text] On 1 September, there was an attack on our soldiers at Ban Mai, resulting in two of our soldiers being killed. Such attacks have been numerous.

I will have the Army Secretariat make a statement to inform the public about Lao soldiers' actions against Thai soldiers who are preserving peace. We have exercised extreme restraint to peacefully defend the country, but the Lao side has tried to continually harass us by attacking our bases and firing at us. We will inform the people about this. Sometime, it will be necessary for us to appropriately retaliate. However, we want the world to know that we have tried our utmost to restrain ourselves and that we are not taking action irrationally. We are like an older brother, but if the younger brother does not care for peace we will be forced to act appropriately.

Army Secretary Statement

BK040439 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 4 Sep 84

[Undated statement by Thai Army Secretary Narudon Detpradiyut -- recorded]

[Text] In connection with the Thai-Lao border dispute involving three villages in Ban Khok subdistrict, Uttaradit Province, which has resulted in a tense border situation and several clashes, Thailand has proposed an end to military confrontation and proposed peaceful negotiations on the principles of justice and what is right. But Laos has rejected Thailand's proposal by displaying an intransigent attitude and attacking a Thai road construction crew and volunteers who provide security for people in the three villages.

Since April of this year Lao artillery and heavy weapons were fired into Thai territory on 17 occasions, and Lao soldiers attacked and sniped at Thai troops on 15 occasions and fired at Thai reconnaissance planes on several occasions. Lao violations of Thai sovereignty resulted in the deaths of 6 Thai officials, injuries to 33 others, and the deaths of 2 innocent villagers. In the latest incidents, on 1 September Lao heavy weapons fire killed two Thai officials and wounded three others, and at 2230 on 2 September, Lao forces attacked road construction equipment, damaging three tractors.

The Army's border defense policy is that restraint will be exercised in order to preserve relations with neighboring countries and prevent a minor incident from intensifying into a national conflict. It has always reiterated its honest and strong desire for the peaceful settlement of problems with other countries. However, by sending its forces to launch serious operations in Thailand that caused the loss of Thai lives and property, Laos has shown disregard for our history of good relations and for Thailand's reasonable proposal. For this reason, the Army must counter and take every action, including a full, strong, and decisive use of force, to safeguard Thai sovereignty and its people's lives and property until negotiations verify ownership of the disputed area.

SHOT FIRED TOWARD ATHIT'S CAR 2 SEP; ARREST MADE

BK030408 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 3 Sep 84 p 3

[Text] Nakhon Ratchasima -- A construction worker was arrested for shooting into a motorcade taking Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek to a Buddhist temple in this north-eastern province to hold a religious ceremony for his 59th birthday yesterday.

Security guards escorting Gen Athit rushed to find who fired a bullet over his limousine. They arrested the worker with a pistol.

A security guard quoted the man as saying that he had no intention of firing into the motorcade. He reportedly said he was shooting at a bottle in the air. The workers was detained for further interrogation and police said they did not believe the man's claim.

Gen Athit later arrived at Wat Pa Salawan in Tambon Nong Chabok of Muang District for the religious ceremony. His birthday was on Aug 31. Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon also traditionally holds a religious ceremony to mark his birthday at the same temple.

Gen Athit later held another religious ceremony at a Buddhist centre in the 23rd Infantry Department at Suratham Phithak camp.

SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT URGED WHILE PREM ILL

BK311316 Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 30 Aug 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Prem-Athit -- The Heart of the Situation"]

[Text] Movements of the leading figures of the government and the military circles like General Prem Tinsulanon and Gen Athit Kamlang-ek can well reflect the political and military situation in the country. Every step they make are being closely scrutinized by the mass media and by people who want to know whether there will be any military or political change during this period. The current events, such as Prime Minister Gen Prem's illness, the show of force of soliders on the day they went to wish Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek a happy birthday, as well as the annual reshuffles of government officials normally taking place from August to October can bring about political bargains.

On 26 August some 900 military and police officers, accompanied by Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, went to greet Gen Prem Tinsulanon on his birthday and pledged their support for his government. Gen Prem was so happy and told his "friends sharing the same life" that he will continue to administer the country. On 28 August some 1,200 military and police officers called on Gen Athit to wish him a happy birthday, and Gen Athit also told his "friends sharing the same life", with confidence, that he will continue to serve the country and Armed Forces. This is the beautiful show of unity between superiors and their subordinates. General Athit receives strong support from soliders and police and diverts it to his immediate superior, Gen Prem.

It is not easy to prevent the people from negative impressions of the leaders of government and the Armed Forces since they might see things through colored glasses. However, their opinions or beliefs should not pose any danger. They have not attempted to create any misunderstanding of the Armed Forces or the government nor have they attempted to cause a rift between Gen Prem and Gen Athit, which will never happen if the pledges to serve the country faithfully and uphold unity given by both Gen Prem and Gen Athit are true. The Armed Forces can avail themselves of the opportunity, during which time Gen Prem is ill, to prove their support for the government.

We believe that all relevant parties are worrying about Gen Prem's illness and the administration of the country's affairs during this period. We suggest that all of us turn our concern for the prime minister's health and the country into energy to work and do our duties in order to maintain peace and order in the country. We should refrain from criticism against the shortcomings of others. Nobody should ever take the opportunity during the ailment of the government leader to create any situation to serve the interests of any political group. The well-being and interests of the people must be placed above everything.

REPORTAGE ON, REACTION TO MOTION ON CONSTITUTION

BK310710 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] According to Ukrit Mongkhonawin, parliament speaker, this morning Colonel Phon Roengprasoetwit, a Chat Thai Party MP, and colleagues submitted an urgent motion calling for interpretation of the Constitution's transitional clauses. The motion was seconded by signatures of 40 cosponsors, conforming to the relevant regulations. It was submitted through the parliament secretary general and resubmitted to him.

Ukrit said that he is required by law to convene a joint House-Senate meeting whenever a motion is submitted. The joint House-Senate meeting has thus been scheduled for 3 September.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Prachuap Suntharangkun told newsmen this morning at the parliamentary building that he has no details about MP's submitting an urgent motion for interpretation of the Constitution's transitional clauses, saying that the matter is parliament's affairs and that the government has not comment on it and has nothing to do with it. He said the Constitution must be consulted to see what can or cannot be done and that he did not think the matter would lead to a crisis.

MP's 'Duped' Into Signing

BK310924 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 31 Aug 84 pp 1, 36

[Text] Twelve angry Chat Thai MP's this morning said they had been duped into signing a controversial motion aimed at enabling permanent officials to hold political posts. The MP's said they would seek on Monday to have their names erased from the motion calling for an interpretation of the Constitution.

The motion had been quietly submitted yesterday to President of Parliament Dr Ukrit Mongkhonnawin by Colonel Phon Roengprasoetwit, deputy leader of Chat Thai Party, while the House of Representatives was sitting to debate in the budget bill.

Chat Thai leader Maj-Gen Praman Adireksan this morning also dissociated his party from the motion, saying that the party had no connection with what Col Phon was doing. "It was not our party decision," ~~he~~ said and added that Col Phon had done it personally.

Whether Chat Thai would agree to it depends on a party vote, he said.

Angry Chat Thai MP's later lashed out at Col Phon.

"We were deceived," said party spokesman Chaowarin Latthasaksiri (Ratchaburi). Speaking at a hastily called conference at Parliament this morning, Chaowarin said Phon's men had convinced some party MP's that the motion has already been approved by Maj-Gen Praman.

After realising that they had been deceived, 12 of the party's MP's decided to withdraw. He said the party was now investigating the other Chat Thai MP's who had signed and would ask them to resign from the party. He said most of the party's MP's who signed were those who did not attend a recent meeting of the party.

Col Phon's motion was this morning put on the parliamentary agenda and is scheduled for debate at 2 p.m. on Monday in a joint session.

Parliament President Ukrit said the motion had been signed by 41 MP's. He said it seeks an interpretation of whether the vote casted by Parliament after debating the amendment of the Constitution in March last year was valid. At that time 254 MP's had voted in favour of amending the Constitution to allow permanent officials to hold political posts concurrently and the zoning of constituencies, under which the provinces would be divided into constituencies and to allow candidates to be individually elected.

However, the vote casted was less than half of the number of the two houses required by the Constitution which required 264 votes, and the amendment was dropped.

But Dr Ukrit said Col Phon's motion seeks to establish that the vote was valid.

The motion claimed that at that time there were four MP's who had died or resigned while 16 senators had resigned, thus making the 254 votes cast enough to pass the constitutional amendments.

When asked to comment on whether the colonel's motion would be invalid as some supporters had withdrawn, he said the MP's should have withdrawn their names before the motion was put on the agenda.

However, so far no MP's has come up to pull out and now the motion was on the agenda.

Parties, Military Clash

BK010329 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 1 Sep 84 p 1

[Excerpt] A renewed move to entitle government officials to assume political posts has apparently sparked off a new round of conflict between the military and major political parties which announced their opposition to a proposed interpretation of the Constitution yesterday.

While senior military officers said the three Armed Forces fully backed the move, leaders of three leading political parties -- Social Action, Democrat and Chat Thai -- expressed their disagreement to it.

SAP leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot flatly said he opposed to it and would not give any further comment while Democrat leader Mr Phichai Rattakun repeated his party's stand against any attempt to allow permanent government officials to concurrently take political portfolios, describing it as "undemocratic."

"We disagree with it no matter if it's an attempt to interpret or amend the Constitution as long as it is against the democratic system," he declared.

Chat Thai leader Maj Gen Praman Adireksan would not give his direct opinion on the move but said he had instructed MP's in his party who earlier endorsed an urgent motion for an interpretation of the charter to withdraw their names. He said his party would hold a meeting on Monday morning to specially discuss the urgent motion which was submitted to Parliament by his party MP from Uthai Thani, Col Phon Roengprasoetwit. Maj Gen Praman admitted that Deputy First Army Region Commander Maj Gen Phichit Kunlawanit called on him at his Soi Ratchakhru residence on Thursday to seek his party's cooperation for the move.

"He (Maj Gen Phichit) did not set any condition in exchange for our cooperation," he said. Emphasizing that he would have to consult his party members first, the Chat Thai leader said upholding the democratic system remained the stand of his party.

MP's Withdraw From Motion

BK020250 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Fifteen Chat Thai MP's have agreed to withdraw their names from a motion to interpret the Constitution, Sara Buri MP Pongphon Adireksan said yesterday.

He said the withdrawal, if approved by Parliament, could nullify the constitutional amendment move, initiated by Chat Thai dissident MP Col Phon Roengprasertwit and tabled for discussion in Parliament tomorrow.

Two more MP's were also expected to withdraw, said Mr Pongphol, adding that 15 were enough for Parliament to drop the motion as it requires at least 30 supporters. Col Phon's motion was supported by 42 MP's, 16 of whom were members of the now-defunct Siam Democratic Party.

Mr Pongphon, the son of Chat Thai leader Praman Adireksan, also reconfirmed the party's opposition to the latest amendment bid, saying that Col Phon "breached democratic principles" by submitting the motion without consulting party leaders.

"Should the retroactive interpretation be allowed, all the laws and orders passed by Parliament could be nullified," he said, adding that he believed that the amendment bid would be defeated if the prime minister opposed it because he still had a large Senate following.

Commenting on the military role in the amendment move, Mr Pongphon said: "We can say the same to the military, can't we? This is a parliamentary affair and has nothing to do with the military." Asked if the military would attempt a coup if the bid failed, he said: "The military has made the same threat over and over again. The tension will die down once the military backs away."

Athit Urges Postponement

BK020546 Bangkok Domestic Television Service in Thai 0419 GMT 2 Sep 84

["Urgent Message" from Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek on 2 September -- read by announcer]

[Text] Dear fellow countrymen: An urgent motion has been submitted to the president of the parliament calling for the interpretation of Article 194 (6) of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand to examine the validity of the vote cast by the parliament in the third reading over the amendment of the Constitution on 16 March 1983. In this regard, I wish to express my opinion to my dear fellow countrymen as follows:

Following the 18 April 1983 general elections held 3 days before the abrogation of the Constitution's transitional clauses which is stipulated in Article 205 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of Thailand of 1973, two different opinions have existed in political circles, government, and among the general public. One group maintains that the transitional clauses have been abrogated since 22 April 1983 while the other believes that the clauses will continue to be valid for 4 more years after the general election on 18 April 1983. This difference of opinion has caused suspicion that the Constitution is being wrongly enforced. The Constitution must be correctly executed for the administration of the country, and it is believed that the parliament has the duty and responsibility to solve this problem.

The parliament is now in the process of taking action to solve this problem. A number of members of the House of Representatives have submitted the motion to the president of the parliament. The submission of the motion to the parliament is a legitimate act and should be admired. The members of the House of Representatives have the right and duty to do so. However, under the present circumstances, the country needs unity and solidarity among all parties which are now working toward the important goal of securing the people's well-being.

Therefore, I appeal to all parties concerned to kindly postpone the consideration of this issue and do their best to carry on their work for the good of the people. I myself wish to confirm to the people that I will devote my life and mind to the safety and well-being of the people and will cooperate with all parties.

Signed Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, Army Commander

[Dated] 2 September 1984

Resolution To Delay Debate

BK031240 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] A resolution was adopted by a vote of 371 to 76 at the joint meeting of parliament to postpone the deliberation on the urgent motion calling for the interpretation of the Constitution submitted by Col Phon Roengprasoetwit, member of the House of Representatives from Uthai Thani Province, and his party. This is the result of the first joint meeting of parliament in the first extraordinary session for 1984, which was held at the National Assembly Building at 1400 today. The meeting was chaired by Ukrit Mongkhonnawin.

Opinions of members of parliament are divided into three groups. The first group wanted the deliberation of the motion to be postponed to give MP's time to study its details. The second group wanted the deliberation to be today because postponement might create political confusion among the public. The last group called for the withdrawal of the motion.

Before the ending at 1500, the meeting acknowledged the royal decree closing the [words indistinct] parliamentary session from 4 September.

Situation Defused 'For Now'

BK030624 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Sep 84 p. 4

[Article by Chatchai Yenbamrung: "An Issue Laid To Rest? Let's Wait and See..."]

[Text] A political time bomb was temporarily defused, at least for now, when Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek yesterday released a surprise statement calling on the Parliament to postpone indefinitely the constitutional interpretation scheduled for today.

He cited the country's need for unity and solidarity as the reason for his requesting the postponement.

His appeal has practically killed off the latest bid to amend the Constitution, which had set the stage for a showdown between the military and the political parties. The statement could lay the constitutional issue to rest for a while. But it won't be long before another confrontation occurs so long as Army generals on active duty continue to be kept away from Cabinet appointments.

The military establishment has long been the dominant political force in the country and is likely to remain so for a long time. Barring them from taking up political posts has been the major source of political tension during the past two years. Unable to seek a compromise from politicians, the military could resort to a short cut to power.

The motion submitted by Col Phon Roengprasoetwit had been backed by some powerful figures in the Army, with First Army Region Deputy Commander Maj-Gen Phichit Kunlawanit at the forefront. Without question, the move was mainly aimed at regaining political power for the military, or somebody in the military.

The move was seen by many as merely an attempt to unseat ailing Gen Prem Tinsulanon because the proponents made mention of a caretaker prime minister during the premier's absence for treatment in the United States.

Gen Athit, in his statement, praised the motion's proponents for their "praiseworthy deeds" along with his call for the postponement of the parliamentary deliberation. It appeared as if the supreme commander had extended his power far beyond the military establishment. More importantly, the Parliament also appeared to come under his sphere of command.

Although the withdrawal would be injurious to the military, particularly those backing the amendment move, a defeat in the Parliament could prove even more damaging to them. Before Gen Athit made the statement, the military must have come to terms with political realities and decided that the tides were perhaps too strong to go against. Social Action Party leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot had already said he was against the motion. National Democracy Party leader Gen Kriangsak Chamanan said it was undemocratic.

Prachakorn Thai leader Samak Sundaravej was said to have rallied for support against it. Even the promilitary Chat Thai Party, which has been waiting for its chance to rejoin the government, announced that it was against the move.

Maj-Gen Phichit last week secretly met with Chat Thai leader Maj-Gen Praman Adireksan to ask for support from the party. Even after the appeal was made, the party remained non-committal. Had the Parliament gone ahead with the interpretation, the repercussions could have split the party beyond repair.

Chat Thai MP Pongphon Adireksan, the son of the party's leader, brushed aside the possibility of a coup attempt if the motion failed to pass. "The military has always made the same threat over and over again," he said, and even predicted, "the tension will die down once the military backs away from this unpopular move."

The concerted voice of the press, whose impact cannot be taken lightly, has also been unanimously against the move.

Above all, Gen Prem has indicated to his coalition partners that he would oppose the Army-backed amendment attempt. He reportedly informed them that he is "ready to stand by what is right and fight what is not." Nevertheless, he had been mysteriously silent over the issue, nor had he shown any signs that he was mobilising support to meet the political threats. As it was becoming increasingly apparent that the Constitutions, amendment would have had a tough time passing through Parliament anyway, the military tried to avert a repetition of the fiasco which occurred when the controversial amendment bill was narrowly defeated in its final reading in Parliament early last year. This time, the motion's proponents tried again to question the vote cast on the bill 18 months ago.

All this shows that the military has underestimated both Parliament and Gen Prem from the start. They believed that a coup threat could win them concessions from the government and political parties. And when they saw another parliamentary debacle looming, they decided to back away.

It perhaps indicated that the military has struck a deal with the prime minister on political arrangements to permit Gen Athit to serve in the Cabinet, either as a deputy prime minister or as defence minister. In that case, it would be very difficult to complete all the arrangements before Gen Prem leaves for the U.S. on September 14, especially when Parliament has yet to fully recover from the fever generated by the constitutional issue and the premier's health is still in question.

The constitutional issue is not just a single, separate incident that would end here. Rather, it could send shock waves throughout the entire political spectrum, including the Armed Forces, which are about to undergo their annual reshuffle. The results of the reshuffle, which Gen Prem has to approve before his departure for the U.S., will indicate just how much influence the prime minister still has left in the Armed Forces, if any.

The issue will re-emerge soon. Should the military want to play along democratic lines, they must learn to concede defeat as well as enjoy the fruits of a victory. But if they don't want to take a democratic attitude, then there is nothing left to debate about.

Politicians on Athit Statement

BK030313 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Sep 84 p 3

[Text] Leading political figures yesterday welcomed Gen Athit's statement calling on Parliament to postpone the constitutional interpretation saying that it had averted a political crisis.

Parliament President Ukrit Mongkhonawin said: "The political situation has changed for the better. I want to see the good political atmosphere maintained. The premier is ill. If there is no debate on the (constitutional) issue during this session, it would help a lot."

Deputy Prime Minister Prachuap Suntharangkun called the statement "the supreme commander's good intention" that has put everyone at ease and will avert a wrangle in Parliament.

Communications Minister Samak Sunthorawet, who is the leader of Prachakon Thai Party, said the political situation has returned to normal after Gen Athit made the statement. He called on Col Phon Roengprasoetwit to withdraw the motion which would ease the tension. He noted that the motion could not have been passed.

Citing a technicality, Dr Ukrit said the issue could not be postponed unless the proponent withdraws the motion. He said there were four ways to prevent the Parliament from debating the motion:

-- The motion would have had to have been withdrawn before midnight yesterday. But he said he would allow Col Phon to withdraw the motion at his residence, cutting short a regular procedure which calls for the request to be submitted to the Parliament's secretary-general first.

-- If a quorum of sponsors cannot be raised at the session today, the motion will be automatically dropped.

-- The motion will be dropped if its proponent is not present when Parliament reconvenes today.

-- If the proponent is present but there are less than 30 supporters, the motion will be dropped.

Dr Ukrit denied that Army generals who are senators had called on him to solicit his support. He said he had scheduled the motion for debate in today's session because the MP's had followed the regulations with sufficient signatures of supporters.

Dr Ukrit said two motions were initially submitted. The first one, which he flatly rejected, stated that the Constitution's transitory clauses had not expired as stipulated in Article 205 because the last general election was held on April 18 last year, which was three days before the expiration date.

It was claimed that this would mean that the clauses would not expire until April 1987. Among other things, the clauses give senators the same power as the elected MP's and permanent officials are allowed to take up political positions.

The other motion that Dr Ukrit received dealt with the vote cast on the constitutional amendment bill in its final reading last March. Dr Ukrit noted that the first motion had no grounds whatsoever while the second one was debatable.

Dr Ukrit said he scheduled the motion for debate today because it was the last day of the extraordinary session, convened to pass the budget bill. He said that the Senate already had the task of ratifying about 30 bills already passed by the House of Representatives. Among the bills to be ratified by the Senate is the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration Bill, which provides for election of the city governor, which was passed unanimously on Friday.

After the extraordinary session ends, the government can reopen Parliament to debate more bills, if it wishes. The session could also be reopened if 190 MP's or one-third of the total members of both chambers request it.

Democrat MP Thawin Phraison of Nakhon Si Thammarat hailed Gen Athit's appeal as a good and correct way to defuse political tension. Mr Thawin said that since the issue about the vote cast in March last year was already dead, there was no point in reviewing it for a debate which could not benefit the people. However, he said the Democrat Party would still hold a meeting this morning as scheduled and he added that the party would remain firm on its position to oppose any revival of the constitutional issue.

He said further that it would have been acceptable to more MP's if the proponents of the reinterpretation had initiated new constitutional amendments or a reinterpretation of the transitory clauses in the Constitution.

Prem To Oppose Move

BK020330 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Sep 84 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon has cancelled a planned meeting with his four deputies at his Sisao Thewet home today, his secretary-general, Lt-Gen Chantharakhup Sirisut, disclosed last night.

The meeting, scheduled for 2 p.m. apparently to discuss the political situation in the wake of a move to amend the Constitution, was called off because some of the deputy prime ministers are in the provinces and will not be back in time, he said.

Gen Prem has indicated to his coalition partners that he would oppose the amendment move. He has reportedly informed them that he is "ready to stand by what is right and fight what is not."

Meanwhile, Social Action Party leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot said that he would oppose the Army-backed amendment attempt in Parliament tomorrow. M.R. Khukrit was speaking in Khon Kaen Province yesterday where he was attending an agricultural seminar.

His statement followed a confrontation between the military and the ruling coalition government over a crucial constitutional issue raised by dissident Chat Thai member Col Phon Roengprasoetwit.

National Democracy Party leader Gen Kriangsak Chamanan has also implied that he would oppose the amendment.

"I have fought for what is right and for democracy all along," he said, adding that the move would pit the military against the political parties, leading to a worsening political situation.

"If they (the military) win, it will nullify practically everything already passed by Parliament," he said.

Gen Kriangsak was speaking to reporters after meeting with Col Phon, who visited him at his Bang Khen home. He declined to reveal details of the meeting, saying that it was personal. Col Phon submitted a motion on Friday to Parliamentary President Ukrit Mongkhonnawin seeking an interpretation to ascertain the validity of a vote cast by the previous Parliament in March last year. The vote was on a constitutional amendment bill, submitted by the now-defunct Siam Democratic Party, headed by Col Phon. M.R. Khukrit, stressing that he had always opposed the constitutional amendment, said he would oppose the motion on the grounds that it was a dead issue.

"How can they interpret a case that is past?" he said, adding sarcastically that if Parliament could interpret issues retroactively, "it would be great fun to 'interpret' the Siamese-Burmese war."

"The currents have already flowed under the bridge. How can they be reversed?" he added.

Asked if he saw anything politically ominous about the current amendment bid, M.R. Khukrit said: "I don't care about signs. I don't believe in signs. Whatever will happen will happen."

Asked if the bid was undemocratic and was supported by influential people, he said: "I am a Democrat. I can also fight influential people and the communists."

Commenting on military support for Col Phon's motion, the SAP leader said the military was entitled to back it if they wished.

'Unwelcome Political Tension'

BK030438 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 3 Sep 84 p 4

[Editorial: "We Can Do Without Political Tension"]

[Text] There is an unwelcome political tension in the air and it is the duty of the politicians and the military to defuse the situation. It all started somewhat innocuously regarding permanent government officials holding political posts and that came in the form of Col Phon Roengprasoetwit of the Chat Thai Party seeking an interpretation of the Constitution. Neither the opposition nor the parties forming the coalition government seem to be in favour of it and a full-dress session of Parliament has been called to debate it today.

This has been complicated by the fact that Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon is suffering from an unfavourable heart condition. Although he is much younger than several the leaders of other countries, he is still a sexagenarian and health problems are quite common at his age. From all reports reaching us, he is in tolerably good health and he also has also been wise to take the best medical advice possible. He is going to the United States to get himself thoroughly checked up by experts and he certainly deserves a holiday more than anybody we can think of.

Gen Athit Kamlang-ek, supreme commander and commander-in-chief of the Royal Thai Army, has made his remarks on the situation. He has said that the debate on the "interpretation of the Constitution" should be postponed and it goes without saying that there is no more powerful voice than his in the military. On the political side, elder statesman M.R. Khukrit Pramot has also said that there is no point in debating the issue since much water has flowed under the bridge. We agree with both Athit and Khukrit that we have come a long way towards making the democratic system of government work in Thailand, and no retrograde step should be taken.

The unfashionable phrase "coup d'etat" has also been mentioned but we have to dismiss it as a figment of the imagination because the government at present is very stable. That this is indirectly linked to Gen Prem's forthcoming visit to the United States should not be taken seriously. The prime minister has been out of the country several times during his tenure and the government has functioned without any problems. All his other trips have been strenuous working tours but this time, apart from a brief medical check-up, he would be having a well-deserved holiday.

Political tension spawns rumours and rumours have a way of the being twisted while they are spread all around. That is not what we want at the present time. What would be best for the country at this time would be for the Parliament to shelve Col Phon's request for the interpretation of the Constitution. It may be taken up at a future date, if necessary but the most important point for all parties concerned to remember is that the democratic system and the people's system and the people's wishes must be taken into full consideration.

POST: SOURCES SEE ELEMENTS FOR COUP NOW IN PLACE

BK020313 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 2 Sep 84 pp 1, 3

[By The Congkhadikit]

[Text] The chips are down -- and the government is being forced to choose between confrontation and compromise. Sources close to both political and military circles said that "the elements for a successful coup d'etat, once thought impossible, are already in place."

Sources involved in activities in this matter suggested that in case of a confrontation, the following scenario might take place: "The opposition Chat Thai Party could be brought into the coalition government with the Social Action Party [SAP], if SAP supports the amendments. In such a situation the SAP leader, M.R. Khukrit Pramot, could be named prime minister in the initial stage, with Supreme Commander and Army Commander-in-Chief General Athit Kamlang-ek as one of the deputy prime ministers."

M.R. Khukrit, however, has always publicly proclaimed his full support for Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon whose integrity and leadership he has admired. So far the SAP, as a party, has never publicly stated it would support the amendment as far as permanent officials serving in political posts are concerned.

Tomorrow's joint parliamentary session for interpretation of the validity of a vote cast by the Parliament in March last year over the constitutional amendments is considered to be the climax of an orchestration of efforts to bring about the amending of the Constitution.

Senators reportedly feel that they must attend the meeting in full force and are expected to vote in favour of amending the Constitution.

Even those senators who are against amending the Constitution or who are neutral over this issue reportedly fear that if they vote differently they might suffer from any consequences.

Behind-the-scenes moves are being made to obtain the cooperation of as many of the elected MP's as possible. Of the government's coalition parties, only the Democrats stand firmly against any constitutional amendments which will permit military officers or active civil servants to assume Cabinet or other political positions.

There are indications that in the SAP, Prachakorn Thai and the National Democracy Parties, there exist cliques favouring such an amendment to end the confrontation. They also wish that the military, in exchange, would support an amendment to divide up province-wide constituencies into more than one for electoral purposes.

The president of the Parliament, Dr Ukrit Mongkhonnawin, who has been known to believe that "the Constitution should be subject to amendments whenever circumstances make them necessary for the political process", will be chairing tomorrow's session.

All of this is taking place at a time when Prime Minister Prem is suffering from a heart condition which requires him to be in the United States for medical examination and treatment from September 14 to at least October 25.

He will be away at the time of the announcement of the new military appointments of October 1.

Army C-in-C General Athit has already reportedly recommended the promotion of Maj-Gen Phichit "Big Tiger" Kunlawanit as commanding general of the First Army Region -- a recommendation which is expected to be approved by General Prem in his position as defence minister.

Maj-Gen Phichit, who has been in the forefront of the movement to extend the tenure of General Athit as supreme commander and Army c-in-c for two more years beyond his retirement on September 30 next year, has openly stated that while Prime Minister Prem is absent from the country, there must be somebody who can effectively assume the position as acting prime minister.

He has also said that he didn't consider any of the coalition party leaders as appropriate to take over the responsibility.

Sources interpret these statements as meaning that the Constitution should be amended before the Prime Minister departs for the U.S. It has been suggested by some influential circles that a compromise could be reached with MP's who oppose amendments of the Constitution.

The proposed amendments, the source reported, could permit the appointment of permanent officials only to certain Cabinet posts such as the minister of defence, the minister of interior, the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of finance. After all, these Cabinet portfolios are part of the prime minister's quota.

Sources said that if the amendments are passed by the Parliament, General Athit would only serve as a Cabinet minister. Such an arrangement, sources said, could provide for the continued stability of the prime minister until the end of the present term in 1987.

It is reported that the opposition Chat Thai, or most members, will support the amendments in the hope of participating in the new coalition. The opposition Chat Thai has said that it will not initiate any proposal for amending the Constitution, but will wait for the government to do so.

The majority of elected MP's are very much concerned about maintaining Thailand's progress towards full-fledged democracy, but a number of pragmatists have voiced their opinion that, in conformity with national tradition, the military may have to be given a role in the administration of the country.

Sources close to the prime minister expressed doubt that he would submit to the pressure applied on him since he reportedly feels that it would be against his principles. They believed that he would not like his career on behalf of his country ended in a manner which would give his name an unfavourable mention in history.

PLANNED AMMUNITION PLANT FACES POSSIBLE DELAY

BK310120 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 31 Aug 84 p 3

[Text] An 800-million-baht project to build an ammunition plant in Nakhon Sawan Province may have to be postponed, Deputy Defence Minister ACM Phaniang Kantarat said yesterday. He said the Defence Ministry was still unable to conclude its negotiation with a British firm expected to undertake the project.

The negotiations were originally expected to be completed and the contract signed before the end of this fiscal year in September, but so far there had been no progress in the talks, he said. Unless everything was concluded by September, the project would have to be put off. "That means the 200-million-baht fund set aside to kick off the project will have to be returned to the Finance Ministry," he said.

ACM Phaniang said that if the project was put off, the ministry might have to return to its earlier plan to hire a consultant firm to pick a new contractor for the project. The Defence Ministry has decided against calling an international bidding, choosing instead to directly negotiate with the British firm so as to cut short the selection process.

REPORTAGE ON NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES

Le Duan Visits Song Be

BK021033 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] On the occasion of the national day, Comrade Le Duan paid a visit to Cu Chi District of Ho Chi Minh City and the 2 September Rubber Enterprise in Song Be Province.

On 30 August, the cadres and people of Cu Chi District, Ho Chi Minh City, were happy and honored to welcome Comrade Le Duan, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee, during the buoyant days of celebrations of the August revolution anniversary and the national day. The comrade general secretary visited Binh My village, where the city's first movement for agricultural cooperativization was launched, met with the local leaders, and heard a report on the production and life of the No 1 Quyet Thank Cooperative. The comrade general secretary commended Binh My village for its many efforts to plan crop planting and animal husbandry relationally, quickly increasing the yields of its two main crops -- rice and sugarcane -- compared with a slower rate of increase during the years immediately after liberation.

Comrade Le Duan had a cordial meeting with the comrade members of the district party committee's Standing Committee and the People's Committee and with the comrades in charge of the various sectors and mass organizations in Cu Chi District. He noted with satisfaction that, on the area once serving as Ho Chi Minh City's resistance base and heavily ravaged by the U.S.-puppet administration, prosperous hamlets and villages and numerous public welfare projects are springing up and the laboring people, in exercising collective mastery, are zealously building a new life according to the district's master plan and the slogan "The state and the people work together."

Chatting cordially with the district's cadres, the comrade general secretary clearly pointed out that the two major tasks of Cu Chi's party organization and administration are to devote themselves to stabilizing and improving the people's living conditions in all respects while making the most active contributions to the cause of socialist industrialization and national defense. He recommended that the party organization of Cu Chi District bring into full play its tradition of persevering struggle in the anti-U.S. war of resistance for national salvation and that each party member ceaselessly cultivate the virtues of devotion, loyalty, and self-denial and struggles in all his life for the party's cause and the people's happiness.

After his meeting with the cadres, Comrade Le Duan stopped by the Bong Hong Dat Thép Nursery to pay a visit to the children there, bringing them the party's affectionate sentiments on the occasion of the forthcoming mid-autumn festival.

Earlier, on 29 August, the comrade general secretary had toured the 2 September Rubber Enterprise in Song Be Province. He visited all parts of the enterprise, from the rubber laminating and refining section where kaolin was being used in the process, to the products packaging section. He noted with satisfaction that the enterprise has begun to conduct its business with efficiency. He advised its cadres and workers to make every effort to quickly enlarge the scale of production. He also recommended that the province satisfactorily carry out planning to make more effective use of Song Be's 300,000 laborers and nearly 1 million hectares of farmland to develop agriculture and forestry, including both crop planting and livestock raising. Song Be must make an effort to increase the areas under industrial crops, especially rubber, a strength it must rely on to build an agro-industrial structure in the districts and to further expand the province's local industry.

Le Duan Attends Meeting

OW011746 Hanoi VNA in English 1709 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 1 -- A mass meeting was held in Ho Chi Minh City this evening to mark the anniversary of the August revolution and the national day. The meeting was honoured with the presence of Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee.

It was also attended by Nguyen Van Linh, member of the C.P.V.C.C. and secretary of the city's party committee; Phan Van Khai, member of the C.P.V. C.C. and acting chairman of the city's People Committee, and representatives of the consulates of the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries in Ho Chi Minh City. In his speech, Phan Van Khai brought out the historic significance of the coming into being of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (now the Socialist Republic of Vietnam) and highlighted the achievements of the Vietnamese people over the past 39 years.

Commemorative meetings also took place in the border provinces of Quang Ninh and Hoang Lien Son. The participants pledged to boost production while standing ready to smash any war move of the Chinese aggressors.

Nguyen Huu Tho Speaks

OW020930 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Opening speech by Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the SRV National Assembly and vice chairman of the SRV Council of State, at the 1 September Hanoi meeting marking the 39th anniversary of Vietnam's August Revolution and national day -- recorded]

[Text] Mr Chairman Truong Chinh of the Council of State, Mr Chairman Pham Van Dong of the Council of Ministers, dear comrades and friends:

Today, our compatriots and combatants throughout the country and our compatriots abroad are jubilantly and enthusiastically celebrating the 39th anniversary of the August revolution and the national day of 2 September.

On behalf of the CPV Central Committee, the National Assembly, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, and the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, may I convey our cordial greetings to the representatives of various strata of people in Hanoi and in the entire country who are present at this solemn commemorative meeting. May I extend our warm greetings to the comrades and members of the diplomatic corps, our international guests, and the representatives and experts of our friendly and fraternal countries who are operating in Vietnam. You are present at this meeting to share the joy with the Vietnamese people.

In celebrating the anniversary of the August revolution and the national day of 2 September, let our entire party, people, and Armed Forces bring into play the spirit of self-reliance and collective mastery and the determination to implement the resolutions of the sixth plenum of the party Central Committee, strive for emulation in boosting production, practice thriftiness, renew the economic management mechanism, improve distribution and circulation operations, successfully implement the 1984 State Plan, make good preparations for the 1985 state plan, fulfill the 1981-85 State Plan, and successfully achieve the socioeconomic objectives set forth by the fifth party congresses.

Let all our people and Armed Forces heighten their revolutionary vigilance and their grave fighting spirit, stand combat ready and fight well with the determination to frustrate all enemy schemes and acts of sabotage, appropriately counter all land-grabbing acts by the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists at the border, and firmly defend the socialist fatherland.

In celebrating the anniversary of the August revolution and the national day of 2 September, the Vietnamese people will continue to consolidate and strengthen the militant solidarity and special alliance of Vietnam, Laos, and Kampuchea as well as the fraternal friendship, militant solidarity, and comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and expand economic, cultural, scientific, and technological relations with the fraternal and other countries.

On behalf of the Presidium [recording fades out]

Banquet Held

OW011750 Hanoi VNA in English 1732 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 1 -- The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, the National Assembly, the State Council, the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front offered a banquet at the Presidential Palace here this evening in honour of the 39th national day.

Among those present on the occasion were Truong Chinh, Pham Van Dong, Nguyen Huu Tho, and members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organization in Hanoi.

Chairman Pham Van Dong proposed toasts to the achievements of the peoples of Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea, the Soviet Union, and the other fraternal socialist countries, and the world people who are struggling for peace, national independence and democracy, to the health of party General Secretary Le Duan, President of the State Council Truong Chinh and all those present.

Gathering of Foreign Experts

OW021808 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 2 Sep 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA September 2 -- Minister Doan Trong Truyen, secretary general of the Council of Ministers, held a cordial get-together this evening with foreign experts now present in Hanoi on the occasion of Vietnam's 39th national day. Also present were economic and trade counsellors of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and representatives of foreign cooperation offices in Vietnam.

Doan Trong Truyen thanked experts of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and foreign representatives for wholeheartedly helping the Vietnamese people in national construction.

On this occasion, the Committee for the Reception of Foreign Aid also held a cordial get-together with representatives of international organizations and other countries which had cooperation and aid relations with Vietnam over the recent past.

NHAN DAN Editorial

BK021502 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 1 Sep 84

[NHAN DAN 2 September editorial: "The Entire Country Assumes Mastery and Every Locality and Establishment Assume Mastery To Successfully Carry Out the Movement To Improve Economic Management and Accelerate Production"]

[Text] The historic Declaration of Independence drafted and proclaimed to the world by President Ho Chi Minh on 2 September 1945 at the Ba Dinh Square amidst the entire country's seething revolutionary atmosphere opened a new era for the country -- an era of national independence and socialism. Over the past 39 years, under the intelligent and creative leadership of our party and by its valiant struggle, the Vietnamese nation has, from a life of oppression and dependence, majestically joined the ranks of vanguard nations of the world, fulfilling the task of national liberation and reunification and at the same time contributing no small part to the development of the world revolution. The new system and new state that were born in the revolutionary autumn of 1945 to confirm the right to national independence and the right to collective mastery of the laboring people have overcome untold complex challenges and recorded historic victories of deep national and epochal significance, thereby opening a path full of fine prospects for the future.

The development of history has always laid before our Vietnamese nation the duty to cope with the most ferocious aggressive and reactionary forces. Equipped with a stalwart revolutionary spirit and correct revolutionary lines, closely associating ourselves with the revolutionary forces of modern times, and bringing into full play patriotism, the revolutionary tradition, the spirit of collective mastery, and the creativity of the people, we have successively defeated one aggressive force after another -- Japanese fascism, French colonialism, U.S. imperialism, and Chinese expansionism -- writing a long epic of the Vietnamese nation in the Ho Chi Minh era.

Our people are faced with two extremely heavy but glorious strategic tasks -- successfully building socialism on a nationwide basis and firmly defending the socialist fatherland. The resolution of the fifth party congress and the various resolutions of the party Central Committee have illuminated the way for our struggle and our efforts to build a new life. In the past weeks party committee echelons of municipalities and provinces have studied the resolution of the party Central Committee's sixth plenum and set forth specific programs of action. The recent party Central Committee plenum focused on discussing and resolving two sets of important issues -- the first consisting of vigorously developing the working people's right to collective mastery and the initiative, creativity, and all capabilities of the various establishments, reorganizing production, formulating step by step a new mechanism for management, and correctly dividing responsibilities and effecting decentralization in management; and the second consisting of resolving a number of pressing problems in the distribution and circulation of goods -- especially those related to the market, prices, wages, and money -- to serve the basic units satisfactorily and at the same time to resolve correctly the various distribution relations within the national economy.

The very important address delivered by Comrade General Secretary Le Duan at the plenum pointed out the fundamental problems facing the socialist revolution in our country and the basic viewpoints of the party on reorganizing production and improving economic management.

Realities of our socioeconomic situation testify to the accuracy of the content of the resolution of the Central Committee's sixth plenum.

This resolution reflects the principles of socialism, meets the requirements for overcoming the immediate difficulties in production and life, creates conditions for developing step by step the national economy, and promotes a change for the better in all aspects of national life. For this very reason, though disseminated and implemented only recently, this resolution has generated a high degree of unanimity within the party and among board sections of the people and served as a basis for ensuring unity in thought and action throughout the party as well as in all sectors and at all echelons.

In the coming period we must concretize all of the policies and measures set forth in the resolution into party directives, state decisions, and programs and targets with uniform measures. Therefore, full implementation of the resolution's content requires that a broad movement for organization and intensive persistent revolutionary actions be launched by all echelons and sectors as well as by all of us laboring people. This is a revolutionary struggle aimed at truly developing the working people's right to collective mastery, realizing joint mastery by all three levels, and mobilizing the combined strength of the entire country for exploiting rapidly and most satisfactorily all the latent potentials to accelerate production and business activities with ever-increasing productivity, quality, and efficiency. This is also a revolutionary struggle aimed at consolidating and developing the socialist economic component, ensuring the leading role of the state-run economy, and gaining victory in the struggle between the two roads of socialism and capitalism and between ourselves and the enemy in order to establish socialist order in the socioeconomic field. Furthermore, this is a revolutionary struggle aimed at improving the distribution and circulation of goods in a positive and steady manner and establishing socialist order on the distribution and circulation front.

Satisfactorily and extensively promoting and organizing the mass movement for revolutionary action, which is taking shape, and accelerating the socialist movement for emulation in production and thrift is an extremely important basic measure to ensure the successful implementation of all party and state resolutions.

The seething uprising of the August revolution and the revolutionary impetus of the national day, 2 September, which prevailed throughout our country 39 years ago, clearly testified to the great strength of the masses. Over the past 39 years we have recorded brilliant military exploits and great achievements in all fields. It is our party that has creatively and extensively directed and organized the people's warfare -- the people's war for national liberation in the South and the people's war for national defense in the North -- and launched many broad mass movements for practical revolutionary action aimed at shaping a new regime, a new economy, a new culture, and a new type of socialist man.

Satisfactorily organizing the mass movement for revolutionary action and promoting the masses' right to complete mastery in every aspect of life in all localities, especially among the grassroots units, is now the most basic condition to pave the way for the country to develop and move forward. Revolutionary realities in many localities show that every sector or establishment can carry out the movement for revolutionary action in a firm and practical manner, perform work and carry out production with good results, and develop a seething emulation impetus if the party organization of that sector or establishment is pure and dynamic, knows how to achieve unity and unanimity, and relies on the abundant intellect and energy of the masses.

Although we are compelled to cope with many difficulties, we have many favorable basic conditions for surmounting these difficulties and moving forward.

Acting hand in glove with the imperialist forces, especially the U.S. imperialists, the Chinese expansionists-hegemonists have waged a multifaceted war of sabotage with evil intent against our country. To totally frustrate their schemes, our entire Armed Forces and people, uniting around the party, have done and are doing their best to strengthen themselves in every aspect and to gallantly fight for the defense of every inch of the country's territory.

Our basic advantages are the dauntless revolutionary will, hardworking spirit, intellect, and creativity of the working people; the valuable and generous international assistance from the fraternal countries, especially the Soviet Union; the support and assistance given by all revolutionary and progressive forces throughout the world; and the special solidarity among the three fraternal countries on the Indochinese peninsula. With these basic advantages, we are fully capable of overcoming difficulties and setting the pace for our country to develop and advance ever more vigorously and steadily.

We are preparing for celebrations of major anniversaries in 1985 -- namely, the 55th founding anniversary of our party, the 95 anniversary of the birth of esteemed President Ho Chi Minh, the 10th anniversary of the liberation of the South that led to the complete unification of the country, and particularly the 40th anniversary of the August Revolution and the foundation of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam -- now the SRV. It is also the time when the whole progressive mankind will mark the 40th anniversary of the great victory over fascism, a turning point in the development of the world revolution.

Let our entire party, people, and Armed Forces make greater efforts in work and production for higher efficiency and productivity, for further progress in the economic and social fields, and for eventually exceeding the 1984 state plan, in order to welcome the year 1985 with great achievements worthy of the heroic Vietnamese nation in the Ho Chi Minh era.

MILITIA READINESS ALONG PRC BORDER NOTED

BK021420 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 1 Sep 84

[Text] To date, all five border districts of Lang Son Province -- Trang Dinh, Van Lang, Cao Loc, Loc Binh, and Dinh Lap -- have expeditiously and satisfactorily carried out the task of consolidating and developing their militia and self-defense forces both on the frontline and in the rear area.

Trang Dinh and Loc Binh Districts, especially, immediately following their recent 40-day counterattack against the Chinese aggressors, have promptly deployed their militia and self-defense forces throughout their localities in a fairly good manner. In Trang Dinh, all villages located right on the border or farther inside the country have been built into combat villages, each fielding a concentration of militia forces placed on a permanent war footing. Each hamlet also boasts three categories of militia: mobile militia for local combat duty, militia for combat-support activities, and militia for the protection of temporarily evacuated people. These militia forces have been consolidated and strengthened both quantitatively and qualitatively and have been organized and built according to local combat plans.

In Loc Binh District, aside from formulating local combat plans, the hamlets and villages located on or close to the border have built all kinds of fortifications and massed militia forces for permanent combat duty.

KYODO: AGRAVA BOARD SAYS EVIDENCE CLEARS GALMAN

OW030409 Tokyo KYODO in English 0342 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] Manila, Sept. 3 KYODO -- The investigating board into the murder of former Senator Benigno Aquino last year has obtained new evidence which effectively dismisses involvement of alleged killer Roland Galman. A source close to the board told KYODO Monday the evidence shows the gunshot which downed Aquino was obviously fired from a .38 pistol, instead of a magnum .357 pistol, which the government claimed Galman used. The evidence was included in a sound analysis the panel obtained a week ago from Japan through an unidentified route, the source said. All the members of the official panel, chaired by Corazon Agrava, judged that the scientific value of the analysis was satisfactory as evidence, the source said.

The analysis involves the sound of four shots fired in the airport incident which took place on August 21 last year. The first shot, which hit Aquino in the head, was fired from a .38 pistol and the third and fourth were from a .45 pistol, although the second gunshot was not identified, according to the source. Military authorities have claimed Galman, an alleged member of a communist group, killed the former opposition leader with a .357 magnum. The source pointed out that there was virtually no possibility that any .357 magnum gun had been used. Aquino, President Ferdinand Marcos' chief rival, was shot at the Manila Airport after being fetched by escorts from a China Airlines plane that brought him home from the United States.

The source also added that Constable Rogelio Moreno, one of the soldiers who escorted Aquino, had always carried a .38 pistol, indicating an increasing suspicion raised in the inquiry panel about the conduct of Moreno. The source, however, said it will be hard for the investigators to pinpoint who fired the first shot because there were no eye-witnesses who actually saw the killing and that all evidence available so far is "circumstantial." The panel is expected to draw up a report on the assassination soon on the basis of its investigation.

STUDENTS, WORKERS REENACT AQUINO FUNERAL

OW311423 Hong Kong AFP in English 1220 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] Manila, Aug 31 (AFP) -- Thousands of students and factory workers took to the streets here today to commemorate the first anniversary of the funeral of murdered opposition leader Benigno Aquino. The demonstrators, estimated by organizers at 5,000 and by police at 3,000, were allowed by police to march from the Manila-Quezon City boundary to a busy central square where the leaders delivered anti-government speeches.

A speaker said the rally was also to commemorate the death of a university student, killed last year when rioters clashed with police near the downtown presidential palace after Mr Aquino's funeral.

Earlier, a 40-vehicle caravan retraced the route of the funeral procession for Mr Aquino, who was gunned down at Manila airport on August 21 last year as soldiers led him from a plane upon his return here from three years of self-exile in the United States. Mr Aquino's funeral lasted 11 hours and was attended by an estimated two million people or more in Metropolitan Manila.

In the central city of Cebu, crowds lined the streets as a regional protest group and opposition political parties led 2,000 marchers in a similar funeral enactment earlier today.

Elmer Mercado, chairman of the League of Filipino Students told reporters the Manila rally was a "build-up for the national protest week" coinciding with the 12th anniversary of the September 21, 1972 imposition of martial law. They have set a nationwide boycott of classes for the week.

DEATHS IN SURIGAO FROM TYPHOON ESTIMATED AT 1,000

HK040746 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 2230 GMT 3 Sep 84

[Text] More than 1,000 people and over (?2) million pesos were lost as a result of the typhoon that hit Mindanao and the Visayas last Sunday. According to one report from Surigao City, about 1,000 people were killed in the province of Surigao. In Surigao City alone, 82 persons were killed and more than 300 were injured by the typhoon. Many more are missing in Surigao. Other fatalities were 15 persons in Misamis Orientals, 4 in Cebu, 22 in Negros Occidental and 7 in Lapulapu City. Additionally, more than 160 people lost their homes in Cebu, Surigao, and other places which are at present without electricity.

In Manila, President Marcos called an emergency meeting of the Cabinet yesterday [3 September] to assess the damage done by typhoon Nitang. The president included the provinces of Palawan, Sulu, and Surigao among those put under a state of calamity. The saving of lives in these provinces was made the first priority of the Disaster Control Committee. The distribution of food and drugs has been speeded up and ruined homes will be rebuilt. The repair of roads, bridges, communication lines, and office buildings was also made a top priority. The Government Security and Insurance Service and the Social Security System were ordered to release funds for emergency housing and salary loans for typhoon victims.

In another directive, the president ordered Agriculture Minister Salvador Escudero and Food Minister Jesus Tanchanco immediately to assess crop damage and to distribute seedlings and fertilizer where needed.

Typhoon Nitang has now left the Philippines after having devastated many parts of the Visayas and Mindanao. At 0400 Nitang was located 420 km west of Metro Manila, packing 120 km per-hour winds and heading for the South China Sea. No 1 is still raised over the Calamian Islands, northern Palawan and Occidental Mindoro. Rain and big waves continue to lash these areas. All signals have been lowered in the other regions of the country.

STAND ON PRESIDENT'S LEGISLATIVE POWERS URGED

OW311403 Quezon City RPN Television Network in English 1100 GMT 31 Aug 84

[From "Newswatch" Program]

[Text] Ranking KBL [Kilusang Bagong Lipunan; New Society Movement] Members are calling for a ruling party stand on Amendment No 6 in the wake of questions raised by two tax decrees. Jose Carlos filed this story:

[Begin recording] The Ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan should take a stand on whether or not Amendment No 6 should be a permanent fixture of the Constitution. This proposal came from Political Affairs Minister Leonardo Perez who said that a nonpartisan approach should be formed by the KBL on the issue of repealing or retaining the president's legislative powers. Agreeing with Perez on this point was Foreign Affairs Minister Arturo Tolentino, who has made clear his position against retaining Amendment No 6. Perez and Tolentino were guests of the Batasan press corps in a breakfast meeting at the Asian Institute of Tourism.

Perez, chairman of the Batasan committee on revision of laws, codes, and constitutional amendments, said at least 10 resolutions seeking to repeal Amendment No. 6 have been referred to his committee. According to Perez, the KBL should firm up its stand on whether or not Amendment No 6 should be a permanent fixture of the Constitution or merely part of the peaceful package of initiatives for political normalization. He said that if it is part of a peaceful package, when will Amendment No 6 be repealed and who will decide when it is time for it to go?

Tolentino, for his part, confirmed that up to now, the KBL as a party has not made any official or collective stand on Amendment No 6. Tolentino also said that divergent views expressed by him and other party members do not mean there is no unity in the KBL. Dissensions are normal in a party, he stressed, saying that they are a healthy sign. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS NO LONGER TAX EXEMPT

HK311155 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 31 Aug 84

[Text] The ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan today decided to scrap all tax-exempt privileges of government-owned and controlled corporations. The ruling party made the move [words indistinct] in support of the national budget. The full story from correspondent Bert Asuge:

[Begin recording] In a 4-hour caucus at Malacanang yesterday presided over by President Marcos, the majority party decided to tax these corporations to make up for the shortfall that will result from the changes of the decrees increasing the vehicle registration fees and the travel tax. Trade and Industry Minister Roberto Ongpin said that among the largest government corporations which stand to lose their tax-exempt privileges will be the Philippine National Oil Corporation, the National Power Corporation and the National Food Authority. All other government corporations likewise will be required to pay taxes.

During the caucus Prime Minister Cesar Virata said the government's urgent need is to raise about 2 billion pesos to cover the shortfall in revenues expected for the year. The tax revenues are needed, he said, to maintain the integrity of government institutions.

Members of the party present at the caucus proposed that a deeper study be made of other possible taxes which may be imposed. They stressed however that the least-burdensome levy measures should be adopted. [end recording]

NATIONAL BUDGET APPROVAL EXPECTED BY 17 SEP

HK030127 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 2 Sep 84 p 19

[By Samuel Senoren]

[Text] The administration has set a showdown on the 1985 national budget in the Batasang Pambansa in two weeks to obtain approval by the International Monetary Fund of a \$630 million loan request by mid-October. Informed sources said yesterday legislation of the 67.3 billion pesos government budget for next year is set for September 17.

Approval of the budget which is presented as Cabinet Bill No. 1 has been delayed by minute scrutiny by an active opposition minority. The proposed budgetary measure however, is expected to be passed by the administration-controlled majority with hardly any changes at all. The budget is one of the major components of the letter of intent which has to be submitted to the IMF before any action could be made on the country's request for a new standby arrangement.

The letter of intent, which outlines the government's economic program in the next 18 months, is expected to be submitted to the IMF by the third week of September. If everything is in place, it usually takes about four weeks for the IMF Executive Board to favorably act on any loan request. That would be in the second or third week of October.

Prime Minister Cesar Virata is hopeful that subsequent negotiations with the 483 creditor banks would be off to a smooth start during the same period so that the Philippines could start 1985 "on a normal basis." Government optimism on IMF approval by October has led to speculations that the Fund may have relaxed an earlier condition for a drastic cut in liquidity levels. It is now widely believed that rather than specifying numbers to be followed, the IMF may now be satisfied by a mere reversal of the liquidity trend in the next four weeks.

The IMF wants to control the amount of money in circulation so that prices would not unduly rise. The idea behind reduced liquidity, according to Virata, is to "break" the inflation level. The rate of inflation has been hovering at 50 percent, a usually accurate yardstick of how deep an economy is in trouble.

Meanwhile, U.S. Ambassador Stephen Bosworth said yesterday in Silliman University in Dumaguete City that he was optimistic the IMF would approve the \$630 million stand-by credit facility being sought by the Philippine Government. Bosworth acknowledged the positive steps taken by the Philippine Government to economic recovery.

SUSPECT ARRESTED IN GEN KARINGAL MURDER CASE

HK030908 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 2230 GMT 2 Sep 84

[Text] The PC-Metrocom [Philippine Constabulary -- Metropolitan Command] say they have solved the murder of Major General Tomas Karingal, former northern police district superintendent. They announced the arrest of an urban terrorist leader in Las Pinas last 26 August. The suspect has been identified as Urben Alegre, alias Ka Ely John, known to be the leader of Sparrow Unit, the liquidation squad of the New People's Army. Alegre's capture was effected 96 days after Karingal's assassination at the Fisher's Reef Restaurant in Quezon City. Wounded during the shooting were Karingal's driver/bodyguard, patrolman Rogelio (Diswe), and a friend, PC Major Renato Bautista.

Alegre was arrested by the Metrocom intelligence unit at an NPA safe house at the Dona Manuela subdivision in Las Pinas, where the authorities found a Soviet-made AK-47 assault rifle with its bullet-filled magazine, an Ingram 9-mm automatic pistol with two magazines, a (Maccaro) 99-mm pistol [as heard], two revolvers, five grenades, five silencers, various magazines for the M-14 and M-16 rifles, several rounds of ammunition, two communist flags showing the hammer and sickle, and five boxes of subversive documents.

According to General Prospero Olivas, Alegre is the brains of the urban terrorist group of the Communist Party of the Philippines, who is also responsible for the killing of Jaime Bernal, a government state witness against Horacio "Boy" Morales, the captured chairman of the CPP National Democratic Front. Bernal was cornered by the NPA at the MacArthur Highway at Meycauayan, Bulacan, on 13 October 1982. Olivas said the incident was the NPA's sixteenth attempt on Bernal's life. According to Olivas, Alegre was an NPA commander who formerly operated in Quezon Province before he was assigned to set up the NPA partisan unit in Metro Manila. Olivas said that Alegre's group was the perpetrator of terrorist activities in Metro Manila.

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